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## CHELLIE PINGREE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES IST DISTRICT, MAINE

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, AND

INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES, CHAIR

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND RELATED AGENCIES

House Agriculture Committee SUBCOMMITTEES:

BIOTECHNOLOGY, HORTICULTURE, AND

CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

May 2, 2025

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting funding for the United Society of Shakers Community Development Hub in fiscal year 2026. The entity to receive funding for this project is the United Society of Shakers, Sabbathday Lake, Inc., located at:

United Society of Shakers, Sabbathday Lake, Inc. 707 Shaker Road New Gloucester, Maine 04260

The funding would be used to support the final phases of creating a year-round rural community development hub through public programs of the Herb House Cultural Center and Visitors' House Welcome Center. The Herb House Cultural Center will support year-round farming, crafts production, and community education. The Visitors' House Welcome Center will serve as a hub for educational classrooms, public restrooms, and farm-to-table programs.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by Section 306 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, 7 U.S. Code section 1926(a).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely.

Chellie Pingree

Member of Congress