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CHELLIE PINGREE
CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
1ST DISTRICT, MAINE

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
SUBCOMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, AND
RELATED AGENCIES
INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND
RELATED AGENCIES, CHAIR
MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, VETERANS AFFAIRS,
AND RELATED AGENCIES
HOUSE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE
SUBCOMMITTEES:
BIOTECHNOLOGY, HORTICULTURE, AND
RESEARCH
CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

May 2, 2025

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the University of Maine School of Law Pilot Criminal Justice Clinic in fiscal year 2026. The entity to receive funding for this project is the University of Maine School of Law, located at:

University of Maine School of Law
300 Fore Street
Portland, Maine
04101

The funding would be used for establishing a pilot Criminal Justice Clinic that will support the state's overstretched criminal justice system and reduce the backlog of criminal adjudications in Maine by providing student attorneys in indigent defense cases. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it responds to an acute crisis plaguing Maine's judicial system through providing for legal needs of Maine's citizens while preparing the future legal workforce.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by section 501 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. § 10152).

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