

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chair
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

May 2, 2025

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for Advancing Colorado's Wildfire Preparedness Response in fiscal year 2025. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control, located at 690 Kipling Street, STE 2000 Lakewood, CO 80215.

The project funding would be used to purchase the Fireguard platform, which would allow Colorado to better predict and respond to wildfires. The project would be a valuable use of taxpayer funds because Colorado's leadership, alongside federal partners and CalFire, have positioned the state's wildfire apparatus as a highly valuable support structure for multiple western states. The intelligence capabilities through the Fireguard platform (a joint project between Colorado, California, and federal partners), is an invaluable resource across western states, federal and state and local fire agencies. Colorado is uniquely positioned in this leadership role, while maintaining the nimble ability to pilot and pursue leading-generation technologies, and while working with partners to integrate these technologies into on-the-ground systems. This project will help Colorado focus resources and develop strategies to positively impact fires across the state by using a low earth orbit constellation of satellites focusing on intensity and severity – and more efficiently using and deploying resources.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by section 203 of the Stafford Act (42 U.S.C. 5133), as amended by Section 1234, National Public Infrastructure Pre-Disaster Hazard Mitigation, of the Disaster Recovery Reform Act (DRRA) of 2018.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Brittany Pettersen", written over a horizontal line.

Brittany Pettersen
Member of Congress

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