

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0926

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May 8, 2024

The Honorable Hal Rogers
Chairman
Subcommittee on CJS
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington D.C. 20515

The Honorable Matthew Cartwright
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on CJS
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Rogers and Ranking Member Cartwright,

I am requesting funding for the Interdisciplinary Engineering & Computing initiative to Advance Semiconductor Industry and National Security Project in Fiscal Year 2025.

The entity to receive funding for this project is Florida International University, located at 11200 SW 8 Street, Miami, FL 33199.

The funding would be used to fuel translation accelerators to develop a cybersecurity artificial intelligence facility with emphasis on wireless links to enable workforce development and training, and support programs for entrepreneurial training. FIU's College of Engineering and Computing (CEC) is pursuing a diverse collection of research opportunities whose goals to advance computer science and engineering, IT industry collaboration including technology transfer and collaborative efforts in areas requiring combined hardware and software expertise. The funding would support equipment for Cybersecurity for 5G/6G networks, Artificial Intelligence, and Computing to ensure uninterrupted semiconductor supply chain and avoid damage to U.S. and the global economy. This project would be a valuable use of taxpayer funds because it will play a key role in training the workforce necessary for the commercial facilities in the U.S. that will be constructed, expanded, or modernized. The workforce will be essential for the domestic semiconductor industry and will ensure secure and resilient supply chains on which semiconductor fabrication relies. Through partnership with CHIPS facilities, FIU can respond in a unique way to expectations systems-level approaches by offering access to a full range of community college partners. Workforce development efforts will provide our future personnel with facilities, namely Leading-Edge, Current Generation, Mature Node and Back-end Production Facilities. It will be a contributor to advancing U.S. economic & national security.

This project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes described in section 272 of title 15, United States Code.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Gimenez', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Congressman Carlos A. Gimenez
Florida's 28th Congressional District