## **Congress of the United States** House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-0926

May 22, 2025

The Honorable Tom Cole Chair Committee on Appropriations U.S. House of Representatives Washington D.C. 20515 The Honorable Rosa DeLauro Ranking Member Committee on Appropriations U.S. House of Representatives Washington D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting funding for the FIU CasaCuba Business Incubator Project in Fiscal Year 2026.

The entity to receive funding for this project is Florida International University located at 11200 SW 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Miami, Florida 33199.

The funding would be used to construct a permanent state of the art space to serve as the anchor for the business and academic interests of FIU's CasaCuba. It will provide an environment where academic research, business incubation, and community engagement intersect. It is a valuable use of taxpayer funds because it will provide for a landmark facility in South Florida, showcasing the economic contributions of the South Florida community while fostering innovation and entrepreneurship.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is consistent with purposes authorized in 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(2).

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

Sincerely,

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

448 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, DC 20515 (202) 225–2778

> DISTRICT OFFICES: 14221 SW 120TH STREET, #115 MIAMI, FL 33186 (305) 222–0160

404 W Palm Drive Florida City, Florida 33034 (305) 222–0160

1100 Simonton Street, Room 1-213 Key West, FL 33040 (305) 292–4485