

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

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May 22, 2025

The Honorable Tome Cole
Chairman
House Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House 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 Historic Reynolds School Renovation Project in Fiscal Year 2026.

The entity to receive funding for this project is Monroe County School District located at 241 Trumbo Road, Key West, Florida 33040.

The funding would be used to support the cost of design and construction activities for restoration of the historic Reynolds School property in Key West, Florida. Originally founded in 1927, Reynolds School served as one of the first elementary schools in the Florida Keys and has been included on the City of Key West historic registry. Rendered inhabitable by Hurricane Irma, the District wishes to preserve this historic building and renovate the property to serve as a suitable site for the District's maintenance and operations department. Restoration of the Reynolds School property in this manner will facilitate the District's efforts in vacating its current administrative headquarters at Trumbo Point to allow that property to serve as a site for affordable workforce housing. The Reynolds School Restoration Project is a valuable use of taxpayer funds ensuring preservation of one of the first public schoolhouses in the Florida Keys, not only contributing to the historic character of Key West, but also facilitating the Monroe County School District's initiative to provide affordable housing to local educators and other members of the District's workforce. Through a public-private partnership, the District will develop 150 affordable housing units at its Trumbo Road property at no cost to taxpayers. Completion of this development will require the District to relocate its administration building to an alternative site. Reynolds School was identified as the most efficient and cost-effective way to accomplish this relocation.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes described in 42 USC § 5305(a)(4).

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, cursive script.

Congressman Carlos A. Gimenez