

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0901

March 13, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations

The Honorable Rosa L. DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting design funding to support replacement of the Child Development Center at Naval Air Station Whiting Field. The entity to receive funding for this project is Naval Air Station Whiting Field, located at 7550 USS Essex St, Milton, FL 32570.

The funding would be used to design a new Child Development Center (CDC) at the installation. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because the existing center is housed in an 80-year-old former storage facility that can no longer meet the growing demand for childcare at the installation. The installation conducts over a million flight operations annually, which exceeds volume at Chicago's O'Hare International Airport, the nation's busiest by flight operations, by over 16%.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 10 U.S.C. Chapter 169, Section 4601 of the National Defense Authorization Act for FY 25, as well as Section 4601 of the National Defense Authorization Act for FY 26.

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

Sincerely,



Jimmy Patronis
Member of Congress