



United States House of Representatives
19th Congressional District, California
Jimmy Panetta

March 27, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairwoman
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 Chair Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting \$1.25 million for the Santa Cruz County Fire Resilience Enhancement project in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is Santa Cruz County Fire Department located at 6059 Highway 9, Felton, Calif., 95018. The project would acquire two Type 6 fire engines and replace a water tender destroyed in an arson incident on March 18th, 2026.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because the new equipment will reduce long-term operational costs, extend the service life of the department's primary engines, and address critical gaps in service to remote communities. Type 6 engines offer a cost-efficient way to improve response times and firefighter safety, while the replacement water tender restores essential water-shuttling capability needed to protect residents, structures, natural resources, and visitors in some of California's most wildfire-prone terrain.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is consistent with purposes authorized in 42 U.S.C.5305(a)(1), 5305(a)(2), 5305(a)(4), and/or 5305(a)(5).

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 'J. Panetta', written over a white background.

Jimmy Panetta
Member of Congress