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ON INTELLIGENCE

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4500

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April 29, 2021

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting funding for the Vermont Farmers Food Center's (VFFC) Heart of Vermont Agriculture (HoVA) program in fiscal year 2022.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the Chamber and Economic Development of the Rutland Region, located at 251 West Street, Rutland, VT 05701.

The funding would be used to provide improved access to critical infrastructure, equipment, and coordinate technical resources for local farmers and value-added entrepreneurs. The funds would help design, purchase, and install equipment necessary to implement climate-controlled storage and food processing facilities, an aggregated packing center, and a value-added commercial kitchen with multiple stations. These essential equipment upgrades will create economic opportunity for local producers and provide consumers with access to local produce and value-added products by facilitating production scale that can fulfill demand and sustain supply beyond growing seasons.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,



Peter Welch
Member of Congress