



Jared Golden
Congress of the United States
2nd District of Maine

May 2, 2025

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chair
House Appropriations Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the University of Maine's Lobster Settlement Index Collector Survey in Fiscal Year 2026. The entity to receive funding for this project is the University of Maine Darling Marine Center, located at 193 Clarks Cove Road, Walpole, Maine 04573.

The funding would be used to support needed equipment, supplies, and staff to establish an expansion of American Lobster Settlement Index sites in the Gulf of Maine. The American Lobster Settlement Index (ALSI) is an international collaborative monitoring program initiated in Maine in 1989 to track the health of juvenile American lobster populations at their youngest, most vulnerable stage during their life history.

This project is a good use of taxpayer funding because it will help collect vital data on the abundance of juvenile lobsters and it is the most accurate method in identifying the strength of individual year classes that make up future populations. The information gathered from this project will provide crucial insight into the current, and future health of this critically important economic and cultural resource.

This project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. § 1451 et seq.).

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

Sincerely,

Jared F. Golden
Member of Congress