



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

March 17, 2026

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 Maliseet Roots to Produce Project in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians, located at 88 Bell Road, Littleton, Maine 04730. The funding would be used for infrastructure, such as greenhouse or climate-controlled environments, allowing for production outside typical seasonal constraints. The Maliseet Roots to Produce Project would bypass Northern Maine's short growing window by implementing a season-extension system that protects crops from early and late-season frosts.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because of a high return on investment: Every \$1 invested in community food programs typically generates a \$2.67 to \$6.00 return in the form of edible produce and local economic activity. These programs also provide job training and transferable skills in teamwork, leadership, and management, helping under-resourced populations move toward financial independence.

This project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(2).

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

