



## Congress of the United States House of Representatives

March 20, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Chair  
House Appropriations Committee  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
House Appropriations Committee  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Tribal Community Development Investment Program in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation, located at 2352 S. Park Street, Suite 303, Madison, WI 53713.

The funding would be used to provide targeted capital grants to Tribal Enterprises, Tribal Governments, and Tribal Business Development Centers to support the construction, renovation, or restoration of commercial facilities that foster entrepreneurship and small business growth. These facilities will support business formation, workforce participation, and economic mobility for Native individuals who contribute to the workforce and economy of WI-04.

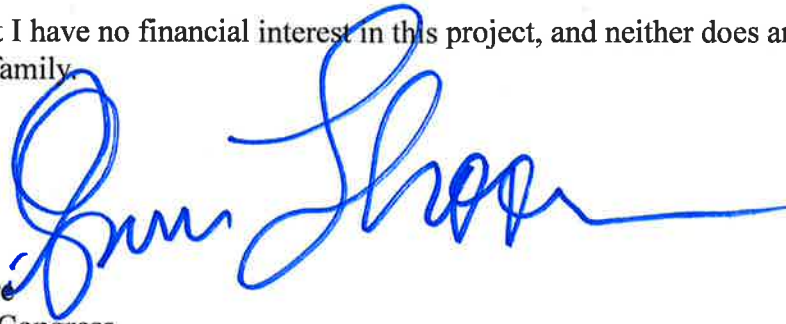
In Wisconsin, 23–27% of Native Americans live below the poverty line compared to 10% statewide. Similarly, tribal nations and their members face limited access to financing and are impacted by rural market conditions and infrastructure gaps. Trust land cannot typically be used as loan collateral, which restricts private financing for commercial development.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because these investments will strengthen entrepreneurship in communities struggling with poverty and high unemployment, generating jobs and boosting tribal economies. Once operational, the funded facilities are expected to serve approximately 100 - 200 entrepreneurs, small business owners, and workforce participants annually through business incubation, technical assistance, workforce training, and retail opportunities. This project will prioritize communities where median household incomes are below statewide averages, unemployment rates are higher than state averages, and access to business development resources and commercial space is limited.

The project has a federal nexus because funding requested is consistent with the goals of one or more of the following eligible uses of the Community Development Fund (CDF): 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(1), 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(2), 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(4), and 42 U.S.C. 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 "Gwen Moore". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Gwen Moore  
Member of Congress