

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
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SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

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## JOHN CULBERSON

7TH DISTRICT, TEXAS

April 10, 2003

The Honorable Ralph S. Regula  
Chairman, Labor, Health and Human Services,  
Education Subcommittee on Appropriations  
2358 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515-3516

The Honorable David Obey  
Ranking Member, Labor, Health and Human Services,  
Education Subcommittee on Appropriations  
2358 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515-3516

Dear Chairman Regula and Ranking Member Obey:

As you begin consideration of the FY2004 Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations bill, I am requesting your support for an important project at Rice University in Houston, Texas.

Rice University is establishing a state of the art facility for the Laboratory for Proteomics Research. This laboratory, which will combine the efforts of the biochemistry, physics, and chemistry departments, will be located near other researchers who are analyzing and interpreting protein structure and within walking distance of the Texas Medical Center.

The recent success of the human genome project has led to a new chapter in molecular medicine, where computers analyze the structure and function of genes, proteins and their RNA intermediaries. This analysis is already leading to new discoveries that experts believe will revolutionize the understanding and treatment of disease and the development of unprecedented cures and preventions. Proteomics--which specifically addresses the vast array of protein compositions, structures and functions--together with related fields of genomics and bioinformatics, serves as a major enabling technology for these future advances.

I am requesting \$5 million from the Health Resources and Services Administration for the renovation and equipment purchases for this laboratory. This project will further enhance Rice's strength in bioengineering and biotechnology and propel Houston to a position of national leadership in this area.

Thank for you consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



John Culberson  
Member of Congress

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Ranking Member, Labor, Health and Human Services,  
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Dear Chairman Regula and Ranking Member Obey:

As you begin consideration of the FY2004 Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations bill, I am requesting your support for an important project at Methodist Hospital in Houston, Texas.

In June 2001, the Texas Medical Center in Houston was devastated by Tropical Storm Allison. The storm destroyed world-class research, forced doctors and patients to seek shelter, and ultimately left \$2 billion worth of damage within the medical center.

For Methodist, I am requesting \$3.5 million from the Health Resources and Services Administration to replace three linear accelerators that were lost in the storm. In the facility's last full year of operation, these accelerators treated 3,000 cancer patients, some of whom were not be candidates for surgery. Methodist is second only to St Jude's Hospital in Memphis for the number of children treated with radiation therapy. The total cost of acquiring the new equipment and refurbishing the supporting facility is \$5.8 million.

This request, along with the Baylor HRSA request, is very important to the Texas Medical Center in recovering from the destruction of Tropical Storm Allison.

Thank for you consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



John Culberson  
Member of Congress

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Ranking Member, Labor, Health and Human Services,  
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Washington, DC 20515-3516

Dear Chairman Regula and Ranking Member Obey:

As you begin consideration of the FY2004 Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations bill, I am requesting your support for an important project at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas.

In June 2001, the Texas Medical Center in Houston was devastated by Tropical Storm Allison. The storm destroyed world-class research, forced doctors and patients to seek shelter, and ultimately left \$2 billion worth of damage within the medical center.

I am requesting \$3.5 million from the Health Resources and Services Administration for Baylor's renovation of their Comprehensive Cancer Center. This center was the home of the largest breast tumor bank in the world, prior to the storm. The renovation of this lab will allow Baylor to resume identification of the genes important for the development and progression of cancer, and the translation of that information into diagnosis, treatment, and prevention. While Baylor sustained over \$400 million in property damages and business interruption losses, they have been able to continue work on surviving projects and even expanded their areas of research. This request is vital to the recovery effort of the Texas Medical Center.

Thank for you consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



John Culberson  
Member of Congress