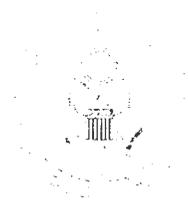


COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
AND THE WORKFORCE

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE



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April 15, 2002

The Honorable James T. Walsh
Chairman
Subcommittee on VA/HUD and Independent Agencies
House Appropriations Committee
H-143 the Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Walsh:

I am respectfully requesting \$750,000, in the form of an economic development grant, for the Battleship Texas Foundation in this year's VA-HUD Appropriations bill. The mission of the Battleship Texas Foundation is to support the restoration, enhancement, and educational value of the Battleship Texas. This funding will go toward improving the grounds surrounding the Battleship Texas as well as building an interpretive center while the ship is in dry-dock. These changes will make the Battleship Texas a more attractive and accessible tourist site to all Americans. In addition, new jobs will be created to fulfill the staffing needs of the new center.

The Battleship Texas was commissioned in 1914 and served with honor during World War I and World War II. After the ship was decommissioned in 1948, it was docked at the historic Texas site of the San Jacinto Battleground. The Battleship Texas was built as an instrument of war, yet stands proudly today as a symbol of our commitment to peace.

This site work will allow the viewing public the opportunity to understand the significant role this grand battleship had in history. Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Culberson".

John Culberson
Member of Congress

*John Culberson
can help Texas*

JC:js

Mr. Chairman