## Congress of the United States

House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515-4329

April 30, 2021

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting funding for the Houston Financial Empowerment Center in fiscal year 2022.

The entity to receive funding for this project is located at 901 Bagby Houston, TX 77002.

The funding will help enhance and expand the Houston Financial Empowerment Center (Magnolia Park-Manchester) by hiring additional financial advisors to:

- 1) Provide financial counseling, coaching, and light case management
- 2) Set up Individual Development Accounts (IDAs) for 100 clients at \$500 each
- 3) Provide client engagement and retention incentives, to 140 clients with \$50 to meet personal financial goals
- 4) Pull free credit reports and scores from the three major consumer credit bureaus (Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion)

The HFECs are staffed by professionally trained financial counselors who help individuals and families to better manage their finances. Financial Counselors are available for personalized guidance and can help with a wide range of personal financial issues, including assisting small businesses. Financial Counselors also triage clients to other community agencies that provide additional public service assistance. At the core of the HFEC model is the integration of light case management into other social services, such as housing and foreclosure prevention, workforce development, prisoner re-entry, benefits access, and domestic violence services.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

Member of Congress