

EDWARD J. MARKEY  
MASSACHUSETTS

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# United States Senate

May 6, 2022

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202-224-2742

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222 MILLIKEN BOULEVARD, SUITE 312  
FALL RIVER, MA 02721  
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1550 MAIN STREET, 4TH FLOOR  
SPRINGFIELD, MA 01103  
413-785-4610

The Honorable Patrick Leahy  
Chairman  
Senate Committee on Appropriations  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Richard Shelby  
Vice Chairman  
Senate Committee on Appropriations  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Tammy Baldwin  
Chairwoman  
Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and  
Drug Administration, and Related Agencies  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable John Hoeven  
Ranking Member  
Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and  
Drug Administration, and Related Agencies  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Leahy, Vice Chairman Shelby, Chairwoman Baldwin and Ranking Member Hoeven:

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has a pecuniary interest in any of the congressionally directed spending items that I have requested in the Fiscal Year 2023 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies appropriations bill, consistent with the requirements of paragraph 9 of Rule XLIV of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Edward J. Markey

**Markey, Edward(D-MA) Agriculture  
Congressionally Directed Spending Requests**

| Recipient Name                            | Project Purpose   | Project Location               | Amount Requested (\$000) |
|---|---|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Kistner Foundation Inc. dba Red Gate Farm | Red Gate Farm Education Center is requesting \$150,000 to help complete the construction of a new student housing facility and dining hall. These facilities will expand Red Gate Farm's capacity to enrich children's education from 3-season programming to year round farm-based activities that foster growth and self-confidence. Many more children from diverse socio-economic backgrounds will benefit from this investment in our facilities, as the buildings will more than double the number of students the organization can serve annually. Red Gate Farm Education Center currently serves students from across the Commonwealth and New England states. By expanding the organization's current capacity, Red Gate Farm will be a greater resource to both the local community and farther areas. At Red Gate Farm, children learn to care for animals, tend gardens, and maintain forest trails. During five months of each year they may plant seeds, herd sheep, collect eggs, or harvest vegetables. Their year round programs will introduce new farm experiences such as maple sugaring, pressing apples for cider, caring for newborn lambs, and planting seeds for the spring gardens. The construction of two new buildings will completely transform the farm's physical space, enabling Red Gate Farm to accommodate twice as many children, who will return to their communities with new skills. | Ashland, Franklin County MA    | \$150                    |
| Franklin Regional Council of Governments  | The funds will be used to purchase voice over pagers for call volunteer firefighters and EMTs that work on the Commonwealth's digital radio system. Franklin County's analog public safety radio system was reaching its end-of-life and is nearly inoperable. In response, the Massachusetts Executive Offices of Technology Services and Security and Public Safety and Security agreed to allow county departments to use the Commonwealth's digital interoperable radio system. They also provided a grant to purchase radios for all system users so they could communicate on the new system. However, the grant did not cover the purchase of digital voice over pagers. Franklin County is a rural area, and a large portion of the county has inadequate cell signal coverage. These pagers that utilize the Commonwealth's digital radio system will soon be the only reliable option to reach many of their volunteers. Without the pagers, the county faces lengthier response times for first responders to arrive on scene because we will need to use landline phones to notify them of an incident. This project would cover 75% of the \$600,000 total estimated cost to purchase digital pagers for all county volunteer personnel.   | Greenfield, Franklin County MA | \$450                    |