

PRAMILA JAYAPAL
7TH DISTRICT, WASHINGTON

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HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
THE BUDGET

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

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March 19, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa L. DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for Project Respect: A Statewide Coordinated Response to Youth Human Trafficking (Commercial Sexual Exploitation and Labor Trafficking) in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Children & Youth Justice Center, located at 300 Elliott Avenue West, Suite 360, Seattle, Washington 98119.

The funding would be used to build out a statewide coordinated response to youth human trafficking. It will also support Children's Advocacy Centers (CACs) in establishing specific multidisciplinary case reviews for children and youth who are survivors of commercial sexual and labor trafficking and exploitation. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it will enhance coordination of services to improve child outcomes. Statewide coordination of services and strategies is essential for nonprofits and government agencies to be able to identify victims and provide survivors with the specialized care and support they need.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by Section 501 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. § 10152).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,



PRAMILA JAYAPAL
Member of Congress