April 28, 2021

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting funding for the Community Employment Program for Adults with Autism project in fiscal year 2022.

The entity to receive funding for this project is Meristem Inc. and the project is located at 9200 Fair Oaks Boulevard, Fair Oaks, 95628.

The funding would be used for expanding Meristem’s current job training and paid internship placement program to a year-round model. The program’s purpose is to prepare and place young adults with autism, who often face significant barriers to employment, into internships with local businesses. Program participants will receive work skills training and job coaching from Meristem and be placed in paid internships in mainstream jobs that offer public interaction and provide pathways to sustainable employment. Funding would also help expand the level of training and increase the number of internship opportunities.

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

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Ami Bera, M.D.
Member of Congress