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COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

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

May 10, 2024

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
H-305, The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee of Appropriation
1036 Longworth HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the **Online Exploitation Victim Identification and Prevention Education** in fiscal year 2025. The entity to receive funding for this project is **Paving the Way Foundation, Inc**, located at 1220 Commerce Park Drive Suite 207, Longwood, FL, 32779.

The funding will be used for a program aiming to save lives by creating a culture of connection, safety, openness and interrupting the 'by stander' affect, empowering youth to take actions in disrupting the cycle of trafficking and online exploitation. They put the power of disrupting the cycle of exploitation in their hands and encourage positive social interactions through positive social interactions. The curriculum covers grooming and recruitment tactics, social media challenges, laws that protect kids and internet safety tools. The programs empower kids to make sound decisions along with tools for positive interaction with peers and authority figures.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds as children should be protected from the onslaught of online materials and threats. Families are the backbone of our nation and we should work to combat them being ripped apart by the horrific crimes of exploitation and trafficking.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes described in 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cory Mills".

Cory Mills
Member of Congress