

Support U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) funding in FY19!

Support funding for the U.S. Economic Development Administration in FY19!

This is a programmatic appropriations request

Instructions will be provided for online data entry (CJS submissions are due March 16, 2018)

Deadline to sign onto this appropriations letter is COB Monday, March 12, 2018

Current Co-signers: GT Thompson (PA), Bill Foster (IL), Seth Moulton (MA), Dave Loebsack (IA), John Delaney (MD), GK Butterfield (NC), Peter DeFazio (OR), Eleanor Norton (DC), Danny Davis (IL), Elijah Cummings (MD), David Cicilline (RI), Jerry McNerney (CA), Stephen Lynch (MA), Peter Welch (VT), Daniel Lipinski (IL), Alcee Hastings (FL), John Garamendi (CA), Brian Higgins (NY), Eric Swalwell (CA), Earl Blumenauer (OR), Mark Takano (CA), Joe Kennedy (MA), Keith Ellison (MN), Juan Vargas (CA), Filemon Vela (TX)

Dear Colleague:

We invite you to join our bipartisan letter to Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies (CJS) Subcommittee Chairman Culberson and Ranking Member Serrano urging them to provide at least level funding for the U.S. Economic Development Administration in the FY19 CJS Appropriations bill. \$276 million was appropriated for EDA in FY17.

If you have any questions or would like to add your name to this letter, please contact Caitlin Hodgkins with Rep. McGovern (Caitlin.Hodgkins@mail.house.gov).

Sincerely,

James P. McGovern
Member of Congress

John J. Duncan Jr.
Member of Congress

Dear Chairman Culberson and Ranking Member Serrano:

As you begin preparing the fiscal year (FY) 2019 Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, we urge you to include in the bill **at least \$276 million** for the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA), which was the FY17 funding level for EDA.

Since 1965, EDA has worked directly with local and regional stakeholders to address the economic needs of communities across the country. EDA is unique among federal programs, as it is focused solely on private sector job creation and economic growth in distressed areas. With a modest budget, EDA has developed a record of making strategic investments and building community and regional partnerships to grow high-quality jobs in such areas as advanced manufacturing, science and technology, and emerging knowledge-based industries. EDA's support of locally-driven projects and initiatives leads to job creation and retention, while leveraging significant private investment.

EDA partners with the nationwide network of Economic Development Districts and state and local officials to address the fundamental building blocks for economic growth: public works and infrastructure investment, business development loans and financing, regional innovation strategies, and public-private partnerships.

Additionally, EDA is well-positioned to assist communities as they respond to sudden and severe economic dislocations, such as major natural disasters. In fact, the National Disaster Response Framework identifies EDA as the lead agency to assist communities with economic recovery following a disaster. In light of the recent devastating natural disasters that have wreaked havoc across the nation, the need for sustained funding within the Economic Development Administration is even greater.

EDA is essential to promote economic growth and help our communities recover after a natural disaster, and we oppose the administration's proposed elimination of EDA in its FY 2019 Budget. We hope that in crafting the FY 2019 Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act you will give consideration to maintaining at least FY17 level funding for EDA.