

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

March 24, 2023

The Honorable Chuck Fleischmann
Subcommittee on Energy and Water
Committee on Appropriations
H-307, U.S. Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Marcy Kaptur
Subcommittee on Energy and Water
Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
Subcommittee on Energy and Water
Committee on Appropriations
Room S-146A, U.S. Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable John Kennedy
Subcommittee on Energy and Water
Committee on Appropriations
Room S-128, U.S. Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Fleischmann, Ranking Member Kaptur, Chairwoman Feinstein, and Ranking Member Kennedy:

We write to urge you to include funding for the [Southeast Crescent Regional Commission \(SCRC\)](#) in the amount of \$33 Million in the FY2024 Energy and Water Appropriations bill under Title IV - Independent Agencies.

The SCRC is a federal-state independent agency aimed at improving economic conditions and quality of life in historically underserved parts of the southeastern U.S. Created through the 2008 Farm Bill (P.L. 110-234), the agency exists to support job and business creation and retention in areas of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, and Mississippi not already served by the Appalachian Regional Commission and Delta Regional Authority. The SCRC supports economic development by providing federal grants to local and regional projects in coordination with state priorities and developing research to assist communities in identifying opportunities to address economic disparity and advance prosperity.

Currently, there are 428 counties and county equivalents included under the jurisdiction of the Commission, of which 166 or 39% are persistent poverty counties. Funding provides for needs in areas critical to local and regional improvements, including transportation, basic public infrastructure, telecommunications, skills development, entrepreneurship and business development, basic health care, tourism and recreation aligned with economic development goals, and renewable and alternative energy.

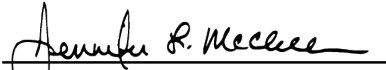
With adequate funding, the SCRC can substantially improve the lives of citizens in poor, impoverished areas of our country.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Congress of the United States

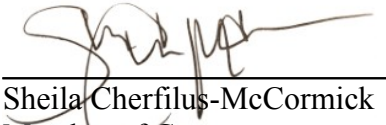
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Jennifer L. McClellan
Member of Congress



Shontel M. Brown
Member of Congress



Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick
Member of Congress



Donald S. Beyer Jr.
Member of Congress



Nancy Mace
Member of Congress



Deborah K. Ross
Member of Congress



Robert C. "Bobby" Scott
Member of Congress