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**JOHN CULBERSON**  
7TH DISTRICT, TEXAS

WASHINGTON OFFICE:  
1728 LONGWORTH BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-4307  
202.225.2571  
FAX 202.225.4381

DISTRICT OFFICE:  
10000 MEMORIAL DRIVE, SUITE 620  
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77024-3490  
713.682.8828  
FAX: 713.680.8070

INTERNET:  
WWW.CULBERSON.HOUSE.GOV

March 16, 2006

The Honorable Ralph S. Regula  
Chairman, House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, HHS, Education  
2358 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515-3516  
Dear Mr. Chairman:

As you know, this bill is very important to me and my constituents because I represent the Texas Medical Center, which is the world's largest medical center. With more than 17 major medical institutions and 5.5 million patient visits each year, the Texas Medical Center's impact on the greater Houston economy exceeds \$13 billion annually. I look forward to working with you to ensure the Medical Center continues to reach its full potential.

As you negotiate with the Senate on the FY2007 Labor, HHS, Education Appropriations bill, I am asking your support for the following projects of critical importance to the 7th District of Texas and Houston. I have listed them in order of priority:

1. Alliance for NanoHealth- Houston, TX: \$2 million construction and equipment. *The Alliance for NanoHealth is my highest priority appropriations request.*
2. Harris County Hospital District- Houston, TX: \$295,000 for cardiac monitors.
3. Methodist Houston, TX: \$500,000 for mass spectrometer.
4. Memorial Hermann Health System- Houston, TX: \$1 million for Neighborhood Health Center construction.
5. The Institute for Research and Rehabilitation- Houston, TX: \$500,000 for Urodynamics Equipment and the Microbiology/Laboratory Software.

You will also have my support for any increase you can provide above and beyond the President's budget for National Institutes of Health, as it is truly the nation's health insurance policy for the future. I also support the President's request for an additional \$181 million for Federally Qualified Health Centers because they serve as a vital safety net for the uninsured.

Should your office need any additional information, please have them contact Ellie Essalih at 6-9172.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of my requests.

Sincerely,

John Culberson  
Member of Congress