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United States Senate

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APPROPRIATIONS

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HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

November 29, 2022

The Honorable Thomas J. Vilsack Secretary of Agriculture United States Department of Agriculture 1400 Independence Avenue Southwest Washington, D.C. 20250

Dear Secretary Vilsack:

I write in support of the Future Service Leaders Foundation and their application for assistance through the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Economic Development Program. Their proposal is to construct a Rural Vitality Center to foster collaboration and support of rural communities.

The Rural Vitality Center will offer a 350-acre campus that provides innovative spaces to host more than 2,000 individuals at a time for year-round programs designed to assist rural communities, schools, businesses and organizations. The venue will be home to the ECenter of Kansas and will provide services dealing with new trends in the professional world, innovative technological development, agricultural education and digital transformation. It will house an experiential learning center, be a career technical education hub, home to community gardens and greenhouses, have an animal therapy center, trails and other indoor/outdoor facilities.

This venue will collaborate resources with innovation to strengthen rural communities and their resources. Thank you for your consideration of their application.

Sincerely,

Jerry Moran

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