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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-4209**

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

HOUSE PERMANENT SELECT  
COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

COMMISSION ON SECURITY AND  
COOPERATION IN EUROPE (U.S.  
HELSINKI COMMISSION)

March 27, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Chairman  
House Committee on Appropriations  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
House Committee on Appropriations  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the **Historic Clayborn Temple Restoration and Renovation Phase II Project** in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is **Shelby County, TN**, located at **160 N Main Street, Memphis, TN 38103**. The funding would be used to **restore the 130-year-old building, which was the stage of the 1968 Sanitation Workers' Strike and I AM A MAN campaign.**

It is an appropriate use of taxpayer money because **the project will eliminate significant blight in the downtown corridor and restore a significant landmark in American history. This will help increase tourism and open a pathway for economic development in Memphis and Shelby County.**

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is consistent with purposes authorized in 42 U.S.C.5305(a)(1), 5305(a)(2), 5305(a)(4), and/or 5305(a)(5).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,



Steve Cohen  
Member of Congress