

**BENNIE G. THOMPSON**  
SECOND DISTRICT, MISSISSIPPI

COMMITTEE ON  
HOMELAND SECURITY  
RANKING MEMBER

WASHINGTON OFFICE:  
2466 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-2402  
(202) 225-5876  
(202) 225-5898: FAX

E-Mail: [benniethompson@mail.house.gov](mailto:benniethompson@mail.house.gov)  
Home Page: <http://benniethompson.house.gov>

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515-2402

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March 19, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Chairman  
House Committee on Appropriations  
H-307, The Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
House Committee on Appropriations  
1036 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

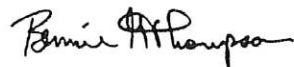
I am requesting funding for the Regional Volunteer Fire Protection Enhancement Project in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is the South Delta Planning and Development District, located at 1427 South Main Street, Greenville, Mississippi 38702.

The funding would be used to support fire station renovations and the acquisition of essential firefighting equipment for volunteer fire departments serving rural communities across the region. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it improves emergency response capabilities, enhances firefighter safety, and protects lives and property in underserved rural areas.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized in Section 306 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1926(a)).

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family have any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,



Bennie G. Thompson  
Member of Congress

107 WEST MADISON STREET  
P.O. BOX 610  
BOLTON, MS 39041  
(601) 866-9003  
(601) 866-9036: FAX  
(800) 355-9003: IN ST.

910 COURTHOUSE LANE  
GREENVILLE, MS 38701  
(662) 335-9003  
(662) 455-9003  
(662) 334-1304: FAX

3607 MEGGAR EVERS BOULEVARD  
JACKSON, MS 39213  
(601) 946-9003  
(601) 982-5337: FAX

263 EAST MAIN STREET  
MARKS, MS 38646  
(662) 326-9003

MOUND BAYOU CITY HALL  
106 GREEN AVENUE, SUITE 106  
MOUND BAYOU, MS 38762  
(662) 741-9003  
(662) 741-9002: FAX

208 LYNDA LEE DRIVE, ROOM 41  
NATCHEZ, MS 39120  
(601) 492-9003