

ILHAN OMAR  
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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
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COMMITTEE ON  
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HIGHER EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE  
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SUBCOMMITTEES ON  
AFRICA, GLOBAL HEALTH, AND GLOBAL HUMAN  
RIGHTS  
INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNATIONAL  
ORGANIZATIONS, AND GLOBAL CORPORATE  
SOCIAL IMPACT

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting \$1 million in funding for the NEON Food Entrepreneur Incubation Center in fiscal year 2022.

The entity to receive funding for this project is Northside Economic Opportunity Network (NEON), located at: 1007 W Broadway Ave, Minneapolis, MN 55411.

The requested \$1 million would fund the development of a commercial kitchen for use by food entrepreneurs enrolled in NEON's Food Business Incubator Program. NEON exists to overcome systemic disinvestment in North Minneapolis by supporting the entrepreneurship of their clients who are 90% people of color and 80% African American. Over 40% of NEON's 1,000+ clients are food entrepreneurs who do not currently have access to a commercial kitchen - this access is crucial not only for ensuring the success of these entrepreneurs but also for providing much needed goods and services to the Northside community, which is the fifth largest food desert in the nation.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ilhan Omar', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Member of Congress