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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510–1605

COMMITTEES:
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April 4, 2014

Senator Dan Coats
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Homeland Security
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
125 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Coats:

As the Committee begins its consideration of the FY2014 Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Bill, I am writing to request support for the following programmatic request included in the President's fiscal year 2014 budget:

Project Name: National Bio and Agro-defense Facility
Request: $300,000,000
Account: Research, Development, Acquisition, and Operations
Office: Science and Technology
Agency: Department of Homeland Security
Project Location: Manhattan, Kansas
Project Description: This project will produce a state-of-the-art research and development facility to provide homeland security for the nation's food and agriculture supply. The facility will house biosecurity level (BSL) 3, BSL 3-Ag, and BSL-4 laboratories to conduct research and develop new medicine to combat the threat of a deadly biological pathogen intentionally or accidentally introduced into the United States plant and animal population. The president's FY15 budget request, in combination with FY14 federal appropriations of $404,000,000 and state contributions equal to 25 percent of the total, would complete the funding necessary to complete the laboratory.

Specifically, funding for the National Bio and Agro-defense Facility is listed in the President's Budget Overview for the Department of Homeland Security on page 89. Additionally, the account request can be located in the Budget's Appendix on pages 557.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has a pecuniary interest, in any of the congressionally directed spending items that I have requested, consistent with the requirements of paragraph 9 of Rule XLIV of the Standing Rules of the Senate. I further certify that I have

posted a description of the items requested on my official website at www.roberts.senate.gov, along with the accompanying justification.

If you have any questions, please contact Theda Khrestin on my staff at 224-2958.

Sincerely,

Pat Roberts

Cc: Senator Mary Landrieu