



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-6502

May 21, 2012

Honorable Joshua M. Sharfstein, MD, Secretary
Maryland Department of Health & Mental Hygiene
Office of the Secretary
201 West Preston Street, 5th Floor
Baltimore, MD 21201

Re: The Maryland Center at Bowie State University

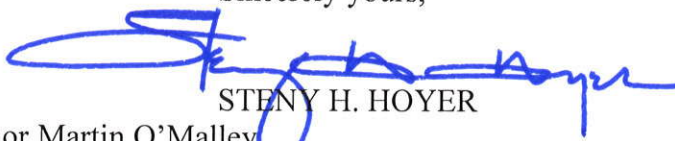
Dear Secretary Sharfstein:

It is with my full support that I write on behalf of the Maryland Center at Bowie State University for their leadership to establish the first of its kind public/private partnership to create a National Emergency Preparedness and Response (NEPR) Research Center at Bowie State University. The NEPR Research Center will provide Maryland and the nation, with advanced public health medical and bio-surveillance capabilities utilizing the first systems ever deployed. I hope your agency will be able to support the NEPR Research Center.

NEPR Research Center can also provide corresponding "real time" medical/bio-surveillance data and information that will provide additional "qualified" medical data back to Maryland state agencies to assist them in their monitoring efforts and for the State's use in providing data feeds to U.S. federal agencies who are constantly seeking grant requests for such qualified "real time" data and information. Maryland will have advanced statewide preparedness and response capabilities.

Your full and fair consideration of the Maryland Center at Bowie State University's request for partnership, under the established rules and guidelines, is greatly appreciated. Thanking you in advance for your consideration with kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,



STENY H. HOYER

cc: Office of Governor Martin O'Malley

DEMOCRATIC WHIP OFFICE:
H-148, THE CAPITOL
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-3130
(202) 226-0663 (FAX)
<http://democraticwhip.house.gov>

WASHINGTON, DC OFFICE:
1705 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-4131
(202) 225-4300 (FAX)
<http://www.hoyer.house.gov>

GREENBELT DISTRICT OFFICE:
U.S. DISTRICT COURT HOUSE
6500 CHERRYWOOD LANE, SUITE 310
GREENBELT, MD 20770
(301) 474-0119
(301) 474-4697 (FAX)

WALDORF DISTRICT OFFICE:
401 POST OFFICE ROAD, #202
WALDORF, MD 20602
(301) 843-1577
(301) 843-1331 (FAX)