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Dear Friends,

It is my honor and privilege to welcome you to the 2026 National McNair Conference at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA).

The McNair Research Scholars Program, inspired by the work of the late Dr. Ronald E. McNair, was created with a goal of motivating and supporting first-generation and low-income students. This federal TRIO initiative provides an incredible opportunity for undergraduate students to prepare themselves for doctoral studies through rigorous training and involvement in research and other scholarly activities. The program would not be possible without the leadership and dedication of student scholars as they participate in this intensive research program.

This conference provides a platform for students to experience a professional research event and to present their research before an interdisciplinary community. The McNair program remains a true asset to UCLA, the 36th Congressional District of California, and our nation.

Congratulations to all McNair participants and my best wishes for a successful conference.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ted W. Lieu". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ted W. Lieu
Member of Congress