CHARLES W. DENT

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Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-3815

May 16, 2017

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND RELATED AGENCIES CHAIRMAN

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SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES

Administrator Tim Horne U.S. General Services Administration 1800 F Street, NW Washington, DC 20405

Dear Administrator Horne:

I write to bring your attention to a facility located in my district that has had a rich history serving a number of my constituents since it was first opened in 1914. The facility is known as the Hamburg Center, and it has served as a state-run home for intellectually challenged people since 1960. Earlier this year, the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services announced that they will be closing the Hamburg State Center on June 30, 2018.

In light of the closure announcement, I would like to share some additional information with you about the facility in hopes that GSA may have an interest in acquiring and repurposing the property once it becomes available next summer. I feel that such a well-positioned property could offer value in a new capacity for the federal government, and appreciate your consideration of the opportunity.

The Hamburg Center is located in Berks County, and is situated approximately 30 miles west of Allentown and 17 miles north of Reading. Interstate 78 passes through the northern section of the campus, which makes access to the facility very convenient through the town of Hamburg. The campus consists of 278 acres with 39 buildings. Approximately 145 acres are leased to neighboring farmers. The Hamburg Center features a 250-seat auditorium, a small swimming pool, and a power plant that provides steam heat to the buildings. Water and sewage are currently provided by Hamburg borough. Further information is available at http://www.dhs.pa.gov/citizens/statecenters/hamburgstatecenter.

Should you be interested in receiving additional information about the Hamburg Center or arranging a tour of the facility and its campus, please let me know. Thank you for your attention to this letter. I look forward to working with you on this situation.

Sincerely,

CHARLES W. DENT Member of Congress