

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 9, 2024

The Honorable Jeanne Shaheen  
Chair  
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice,  
Science & Related Agencies  
Senate Committee on Appropriations  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Jerry Moran  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice,  
Science & Related Agencies Senate  
Committee on Appropriations  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chair Shaheen and Ranking Member Moran:

As the Subcommittee begins deliberations on the Fiscal Year 2025 (FY25) Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill, we write to respectfully urge the Committee to appropriate at least **\$11.9 billion for the National Science Foundation (NSF) in FY 25.**

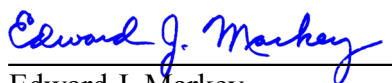
NSF funding is critical to ensure our innovation ecosystem is prepared to lead the world in the emerging technologies that are key to our national defense. In 2022, large bipartisan majorities passed a five-year authorization for NSF, which authorized \$16.7 billion for the agency in FY25.

The Science provisions of CHIPS and Science authorization direct NSF to expand its mission toward transforming innovation ecosystems with the new Technology, Innovation, and Partnerships (TIP) Directorate, address growing workforce gaps in emerging technology areas by expanding its efforts in STEM education and broadening participation programs, and advance many priorities in foundational research and infrastructure programs. NSF remains well prepared to take on the enhanced competitiveness mission envisioned in congressional innovation legislation and ramp up its investments in critical science and technology areas.

Even before the launch of the new TIP directorate and other new programs authorized in CHIPS and Science, NSF was unable to fund more than \$2 billion worth of research proposals rated “very good or higher” each fiscal year. Despite strong bipartisan support for NSF, in the difficult funding environment of FY24 the agency suffered cuts. Many programs authorized in 2022 will be stalled or suspended, including the advancement of important regional innovation efforts. It is imperative that NSF see sustainable growth. New efforts can only be successful when built on a strong foundational research enterprise that supports research, education, and infrastructure to sustain our science and technology ecosystem.

We urge you to provide at least \$11.9 billion in FY 2025, and set NSF on a funding trajectory that will meet the major challenges our nation faces and ensure success for our future competitiveness, security, and resilience.

Sincerely,



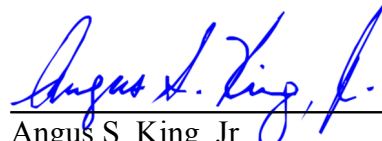
Edward J. Markey  
United States Senator



Benjamin L. Cardin  
United States Senator



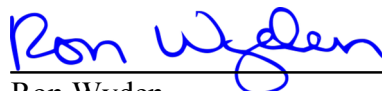
Tim Kaine  
United States Senator



Angus S. King, Jr.  
United States Senator



Raphael Warnock  
United States Senator



Ron Wyden  
United States Senator



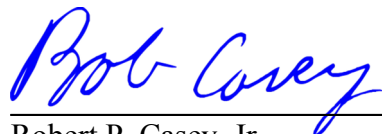
Cory A. Booker  
United States Senator



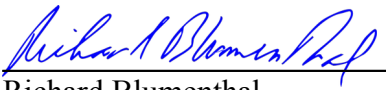
Catherine Cortez Masto  
United States Senator




Alex Padilla  
United States Senator



Robert P. Casey, Jr.  
United States Senator



Richard Blumenthal  
United States Senator



Jeffrey A. Merkley  
United States Senator



Kirsten Gillibrand  
United States Senator



Mazie K. Hirono  
United States Senator



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



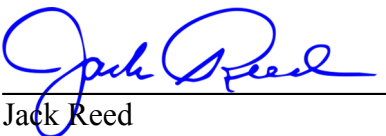
Sheldon Whitehouse  
United States Senator



Michael F. Bennet  
United States Senator



Jacky Rosen  
U.S. Senator



Jack Reed  
United States Senator



Sherrod Brown  
United States Senator



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Mark R. Warner  
United States Senator



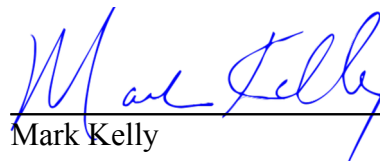
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John Hickenlooper  
United States Senator



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Christopher S. Murphy  
United States Senator



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Mark Kelly  
United States Senator



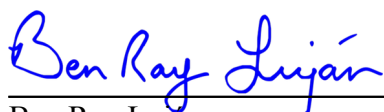
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Debbie Stabenow  
United States Senator



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Christopher A. Coons  
United States Senator



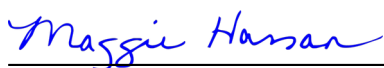
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Ben Ray Lujan  
United States Senator



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Martin Heinrich  
United States Senator



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Margaret Wood Hassan  
United States Senator



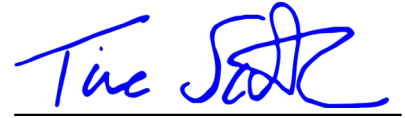
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Tammy Baldwin  
United States Senator




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Jon Ossoff  
United States Senator




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Tina Smith  
United States Senator



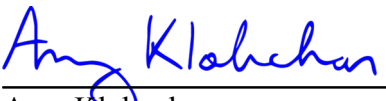
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Gary C. Peters  
United States Senator



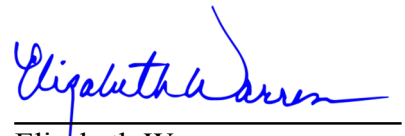
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Chris Van Hollen  
United States Senator



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Amy Klobuchar  
United States Senator



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Elizabeth Warren  
United States Senator