

# THE NEW ENGLAND COUNCIL

April 12, 2023

Dear New England Delegation,

On behalf of the members of The New England Council, we thank you for your efforts to support and strengthen the U.S. federal science and innovation ecosystem through strong investments in the National Science Foundation (NSF) for fiscal year 2023. We write today to urge you to build on the initial commitment in the CHIPS & Science Act and increase NSF's budget in FY24 to \$11.9 billion.

For New England's innovation economy to continue to grow and thrive, The New England Council supports advancements in federal policies that will support U.S. innovation and global competitiveness and help tackle some of the biggest challenges our region's innovators currently face. Last year the Council sent a letter advocating for Congress to pass the CHIPS and Science Act. Now, since the CHIPS and Science Act did pass, members of the Council are urging Congress to build on the initial commitment in the CHIPS & Science Act and to increase the NSF's budget in FY24 by \$11.9 billion.

Such an investment would make the domestic industry more competitive while encouraging more investment within the U.S. The New England region is recognized as a global innovation hub and is home to industry-leading companies across an array of sectors including semiconductors, life sciences, renewable energy, biotechnology, and more. With its priorities in discovery and innovation, building partnerships, investing in scientific infrastructure, and improving STEM education, NSF is a true catalyst in these fields and other emerging, cutting-edge science. Because innovation in these sectors holds the key not only to enhancing our nation's competitive edge but also to solving our greatest challenges, we believe firmly that the increased funding for the NSF will help ensure our region's continued growth and international leadership.

With the global stage growing more competitive and tumultuous, it is even more important than ever as a nation to invest in innovation to prepare for the next pandemic, respond to a rapidly changing climate, and face down more sophisticated national security threats. By supporting curiosity-driven research, NSF is nurturing the next generation of scientists and solutions, and the agency is committed to help build diverse new partnerships across industries – a foundation of the thriving New England innovation economy – to tackle new challenges and create new opportunities. To put it simply, increasing the federal investment in NSF will improve our national health, prosperity, and security.

Thank you again for your work on the CHIPS and Science Act and for considering \$11.9 billion for the National Science Foundation for FY24. If you or your staff have any questions, please feel free to contact Mariah Healy, our Director of Federal Affairs, at [mhealy@newenglandcouncil.com](mailto:mhealy@newenglandcouncil.com).

Sincerely,



James T. Brett

President and CEO

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