## Hnited States Senate WASHINGTON, DC 20510

February 2, 2023

The Honorable Shalanda Young Director Office of Management and Budget 1650 Pennsylvania Avenue Washington, D.C. 20504 The Honorable Gina Raimondo Secretary Department of Commerce 1401 Constitution Avenue NW Washington, DC 20230

Dear Secretary Raimondo and Director Young:

As strong supporters of the Regional Technology and Innovation Hub Program created in the bipartisan CHIPS and Science Act, we write to urge you to include full authorized funding for the program in the President's Fiscal Year 2024 budget request. The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023 included \$500 million for the Regional Technology and Innovation Hub Program for Fiscal Year 2023, nearly \$1 billion short of the \$1.485 billion authorized by Congress for Fiscal Year 2023. To make up for the shortfall in Fiscal Year 2023, and keep pace with levels authorized by Congress, we encourage you to request additional funding for the program to help ensure U.S. global economic and technological leadership.

The Regional Technology and Innovation Hub Program will award grants to groups of local, State, Tribal, and Federal government entities, institutions of higher education, the private sector, economic development organizations, labor organizations, nonprofit organizations, and community organizations. Grant awards will be selected in a competitive process, based on applicants' ability to develop broad-based regional innovation initiatives that will improve American leadership in technology and innovation, support economic development and resilience, serve underserved communities, modernize manufacturing, support domestic job creation, and accelerate the adoption and domestic production of innovative research. We look forward to working with the Administration to fulfill this promise in the CHIPS and Science Act.

The Regional Technology and Innovation Hub Program intends to promote increased geographic diversity of innovation across the United States, to support domestic job creation and broadbased economic growth for all Americans. We need the contributions of the whole nation in order to compete and continue to be a leader in technology. According to a Brookings Institution report, a third of the nation's innovation jobs reside in only 16 counties, despite significant talent nationwide. Additional funding for the program will help other areas develop their regional innovation strategies and begin funding the business, technology, and workforce development activities at geographically diverse regional hubs. We urge you to support strong funding for the hubs program at the authorized funding level in order to accelerate innovation by tapping into the significant resources available in small and medium sized communities across the country. Thank you for your consideration, we look forward to working with you on this important priority.

Sincerely,

Tammy Baldwin United States Senator

Hurrod Brown

Sherrod Brown United States Senator

Richard J. Durbin United States Senator

John Hickenlooper United States Senator

Kirsten Gillibrand United States Senator

Robert P. Casey, Jr. United States Senator

Ron Wyden United States Senator

Jon Tester United States Senator

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Tina Smith United States Senator

Angus S. King, Jr. () United States Senator

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Mark R. Warner United States Senator

Sheldon Whitehouse United States Senator

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Amy Klobuchar United States Senator

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Raphael G. Warnock United States Senator

Alex Padilla United States Senator

Tammy Orekwath

Tammy Duckworth United States Senator

Jack Reed United States Senator

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Christopher A. Coons United States Senator

Roger D. Wicker United States Senator

Jon Ossoff

United States Senator

Maria Cantwell United States Senator

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Jacky Rosen United States Senator

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Peter Welch United States Senator