

June 13, 2023

The Honorable Chuck Schumer  
Majority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Speaker  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Republican Leader  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries  
Democratic Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senate Majority Leader Schumer, Senate Minority Leader McConnell, Speaker McCarthy, and House Minority Leader Jeffries:

With the threat of a national default averted, the cochairs of the [Science and Technology Action Committee \(STAC\)](#) urge you to go beyond the constraints of the new spending limits to ensure sufficient science and technology funding in the FY24 appropriations bills, including the justifiable use of emergency spending.

As members of STAC, a non-partisan alliance of nonprofit, academic, foundation, and business leaders, we know how vital government investment in science and technology is to avoid letting the U.S. fall behind in the global innovation race with China.

Over the past two decades, China has dramatically increased its spending on research and development, nearly erasing the U.S. global lead. In fact, without significant federal investment, we are at risk of [ceding our position to China](#) by the end of this decade. The impact on America if this were to happen could be devastating: fewer jobs, a weaker economy, the risk of more intrusive and unethical uses of technology and greater threats to national security.

In order to keep this from happening, we must elevate policies that will have the greatest return on investment for the nation. That means prioritizing building the nation's STEM workforce, expanding research into artificial intelligence and ensuring the latest technological advances are developed here in the U.S. — issues both sides of the aisle and both chambers can agree upon.

By funding key investments in science and technology, we can power the U.S. economy, boost national security, and secure our global competitiveness for years to come, all while ensuring that new technological advancements are created here — not overseas.

We look forward to working with you and the rest of the 118th Congress on accomplishing this crucial mission. If you would like to speak with any member of our Committee, please reach out



to Sheila Murphy, Vice President of Advocacy Programs and Initiatives at Research!America, at [smurphy@researchamerica.org](mailto:smurphy@researchamerica.org).

Sincerely,

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