July 12, 2023

Senator Patty Murray  
Appropriations Committee Chair  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Susan Collins  
Appropriations Vice Chair  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Jeanne Shaheen  
Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies Chair  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Jerry Moran  
Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies Ranking Member  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chair Murray, Chair Shaheen, Vice Chair Collins, and Ranking Member Moran:

As the Commerce-Justice-Science Subcommittee and the Senate Appropriations Committee prepare to mark up the FY24 Commerce-Justice-Science appropriations legislation, we, as Co-chairs of the Science and Technology Action Committee, urge you to allocate funding to the NSF and other federal science programs at FY23 levels, at a minimum, to address critical national priorities.

We understand you face significant challenges in putting together this legislation, particularly given spending reductions included in the debt ceiling agreement reached in June. However, as you know, the U.S. is trying to maintain our position as a global leader in science and technology as we face a tsunami of global competition, particularly from China. It is critically important for science agencies to receive adequate funding to pursue bipartisan priorities such as building the nation’s STEM workforce, expanding research into artificial intelligence, and ensuring the latest technological advances are developed here in the U.S. as we face growing international competition along with threats such as climate change and the need for energy independence.

In the face of a particularly difficult budget year, we urge the respective committees to allocate robust funding to these agencies so they may address the many serious challenges we face.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Bill Novelli  
Professor & Founder, Business For Impact Center, Georgetown’s McDonough School of Business

Sudip Parikh  
CEO, The American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS)

Mary Woolley  
President & CEO, Research!America

Keith Yamamoto  
Vice Chancellor for Science Policy & Strategy UCSF