

July 12, 2023

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

Senator Susan Collins
Appropriations Vice 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 Cochairs 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