

BUSINESS FOR FEDERAL
RESEARCH FUNDING 

September 22, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi, Speaker
United States House of Representatives
1236 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell, Leader
United States Senate
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy, Leader
United States House of Representatives
2468 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Charles Schumer, Leader
United States Senate
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Leaders McConnell, McCarthy and Schumer:

Thank you for your leadership and continued work to protect Americans, stabilize the economy, and ensure the survival of key institutions and sectors during this challenging time. We represent the Business for Federal Research Funding coalition, a group of more than 80 chambers of commerce from across the country that support increased investment in scientific and medical research.

It is more critical than ever that we protect and invest in the national research and development infrastructure in order to maintain national competitiveness, stimulate economic activity and innovation, and steer the country toward a hopeful future. In order to do so we encourage swift action to pass the following proposals.

- Incorporate the proposals put forth in the H.R. 7308 *Research Investment to Spark the Economy Act* (the RISE Act) as part of any upcoming COVID-19 relief or stimulus bill. The RISE Act would infuse \$26 billion of supplemental funding to extend the duration of grants impacted by the COVID-19 shutdowns; cover increased costs of construction of scientific laboratories or equipment delayed by COVID-19; and to fund grants related to the economic, social, or behavioral effects of COVID-19.
- Pass S. 3832 *The Endless Frontier Act*, sponsored by Leader Schumer and Representative Young, to increase funding and establish a Directorate of Technology within the National Science Foundation. The targeted areas of research that would be supported by this bill include critical technologies for the future of work including Artificial Intelligence, machine learning, semiconductors and more. Our coalition recommends increasing the minimum percentage of funds designated for moving technology from the lab to the market.

These investments in scientific research and development will strengthen the national economy and drive innovation. We appreciate your attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,

Business for Federal Research Funding Coalition

**BUSINESS FOR FEDERAL
RESEARCH FUNDING** 

Ames Chamber of Commerce
Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Regional Chamber
Asheville Area Chamber of Commerce
Athens Area Chamber of Commerce
Aurora Chamber of Commerce
Austin Chamber of Commerce
Boulder Chamber of Commerce
Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce
Cambridge Chamber of Commerce
Capital Region Chamber
Cary Chamber of Commerce
Cedar Rapids Metro Economic Alliance
CEO Council for Growth
Chamber of Business and Industry of Centre
County
Chamber of Commerce for Greater
Philadelphia
Chapel Hill-Carrboro Chamber of Commerce
Charlotte Regional Business Alliance
Charlottesville Regional Chamber of
Commerce
Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce
Colorado Business Roundtable
Columbus Chamber of Commerce
Dayton Development Coalition
DeKalb Chamber of Commerce
Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce
Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce
Eugene Area Chamber
Fayetteville Regional Chamber
Fort Collins Area Chamber
Gainesville Area Chamber of Commerce
Georgia Chamber of Commerce
Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce
Greater Des Moines Partnership
Greater Durham Chamber of Commerce
Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce
Greater Lexington, KY Chamber of Commerce
Greater Madison Chamber of Commerce
Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce
Greater Oklahoma City Chamber
Greater Omaha Chamber of Commerce
Greater Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce
Greater Providence Chamber
Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce
Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce
Greater Topeka Chamber of Commerce
Greater Winston-Salem Chamber of Commerce
Huntsville/Madison County Chamber
Indy Chamber
Iowa City Area Chamber of Commerce
Lawrence Chamber of Commerce
Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce
Lubbock Chamber of Commerce
Manhattan Area Chamber of Commerce
Manhattan Chamber of Commerce
Maryland Chamber of Commerce
Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce
Minneapolis Regional Chamber of Commerce
Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce
Morrisville Chamber of Commerce
Naperville Area Chamber of Commerce
Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce
Pasadena Chamber of Commerce
Portland Business Alliance
Princeton Mercer Regional Chamber
Salt Lake Chamber
San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce
San Francisco Chamber of Commerce
Seattle Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce
Silicon Valley Leadership Group
South Metro Denver Chamber
Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce
St. Louis Regional Chamber
Texas Association of Business
The Bridgeport Regional Business Council
The Business Council of Fairfield County
The New England Council
Tompkins County Chamber of Commerce
Worcester Regional Chamber of Commerce