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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY
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SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND
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HOUSE VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY
SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND
INVESTIGATIONS

REGIONAL WHIP, NEW YORK STATE

CO-CHAIR, NORTHERN BORDER CAUCUS

March 19, 2026

Chairman Tom Cole
2207 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Ranking Member Rosa DeLauro
2413 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the University at Buffalo (UB) in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is The Research Foundation for the State University of New York, located at 520 Lee Entrance, Suite 211, Amherst, New York 14228. The funding would be used for the UB Center for Excellence in Semiconductor Technology for NYS to support the acquisition and installation of state-of-the-art direct write laser lithography and advanced semiconductor testing tools.

This project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it represents a strategic investment in semiconductor workforce development, research infrastructure, and US technological leadership. The project will deliver critical upgrades to UB's Center for Advanced Semiconductor Technology (CAST), providing on-site and remote access to students, faculty, researchers, and entrepreneurs across multiple educational institutions in the Western New York region. The new tools will enable high-throughput fabrication and testing of quantum chips at low operating temperatures, and will be integrated into existing UB semiconductor fabrication courses offered in both in-person and online formats.

Western New York is poised to play a critical role in onshoring the manufacturing of AI and quantum chips, sectors essential to continued US leadership in critical technologies. By investing in advanced training infrastructure, this project will build a skilled semiconductor workforce — serving students from Associate and bachelor's programs through graduate MS and PhD levels — and support the growing semiconductor manufacturing industry in New York State and across the nation.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for activities consistent with, and supportive of, NIST's mission and aligned with one or more of the functions and activities described in section 272 of title 15, United States Code. I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Timothy M. Kennedy".

Timothy M. Kennedy
Member of Congress