

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

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September 28, 2021

The Honorable Eddie Bernice Johnson
Chairwoman
U.S. House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology
2321 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Maria Cantwell
Chairwoman
U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
254 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington DC 20510

The Honorable Joe Manchin
Chairman
U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
304 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairwoman Johnson, Chairwoman Cantwell and Chairman Manchin:

The continued success of our nation's research enterprise is heavily dependent upon ensuring the continuity of science and innovation within our universities and national laboratories. On behalf of the University of California, (UC) thank you for the research investments included in the reconciliation package currently moving through the House. This legislation will help to ensure that our nation maintains its global scientific and technological leadership.

As a leading funder of research discoveries in the U.S., the National Science Foundation (NSF) is critical to our nation's competitiveness. As the largest recipient of NSF funding, UC plays a key role in addressing the many challenges facing our country and the world. UC supports the robust funding for NSF outlined in the House reconciliation legislation. The \$7.5 billion for research across the agency and \$3.4 billion for infrastructure would allow the nation's research enterprise to continue extending new and existing research awards, scholarships and fellowships across all STEM disciplines.

The Department of Energy's (DOE) Office of Science similarly plays a critical role in America's research ecosystem. As the nation's largest funder of the physical sciences and as host of some of the world's largest and most sophisticated research facilities, UC campuses and universities across the nation rely heavily on the Office of Science to meet critical

research and technology development goals and objectives. UC is also proud of its management role in three national laboratories (Berkeley, Livermore and Los Alamos National Laboratories), we value our role as a partner in helping the Department meet its core missions. UC supports the \$15.8 billion for DOE in the House reconciliation bill. The \$11.6 billion for infrastructure improvements at national laboratories will ensure the continuity of research and technology discoveries in the U.S. and maintain our competitive edge across the globe.

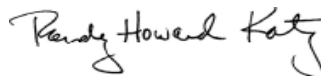
Finally, UC applauds the bill's aim to focus on climate modeling and resiliency research, which is necessary for solving some of the greatest technological challenges in our society today. The bill would allocate over \$1 billion across NSF, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for climate resiliency, including wildfire research. Given the impact of wildfires on our nation and in California, this is a critical research area for continued federal investment in the reconciliation package and in the coming years. Wildfire research is key to protecting America's lands, as well as California's economy and infrastructure particularly for vulnerable communities.

We greatly appreciate your continued support of, and leadership in science and technology. This reconciliation package reflects that commitment and ensures the advancement of research knowledge with the potential to transform the future. UC strongly supports the funding allocated in the reconciliation package for the science agencies and hopes these funding levels are protected as the legislation advances toward passage.

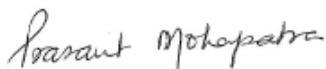
Sincerely,



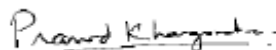
Theresa A. Maldonado, Ph.D., P.E.
Vice President for Research & Innovation



Randy Katz
Vice Chancellor for Research, UC Berkeley



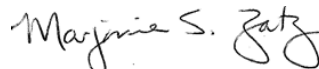
Prasant Mohapatra
Vice Chancellor for Research, UC Davis




Pramod Khargonekar
Vice Chancellor for Research, UC Irvine



Roger Wakimoto
Vice Chancellor for Research, UC Los Angeles



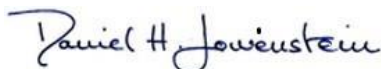
Marjorie Zatz
Interim Vice Chancellor for Research and Economic Development, UC Merced



Rodolfo Torres
Vice Chancellor for Research and Economic Development, UC Riverside



Sandra Brown
Vice Chancellor for Research, UC San Diego



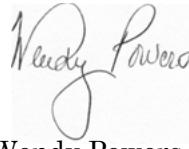
Daniel H. Lowenstein
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Santa Cruz



Wendy Powers
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and Natural Resources

cc:

Christopher Harrington, Associate Vice President for Federal Relations, UC System

Sen. Dianne Feinstein

Sen. Alex Padilla

Rep. Ami Bera

Rep. Zoe Lofgren

Rep. Jerry McNerney

Rep. Brad Sherman