

ROBERT P. CASEY, JR.
PENNSYLVANIA

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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

August 8, 2023

The Honorable Gina Raimondo
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Secretary Raimondo,

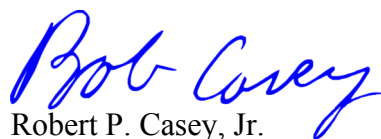
I write today in support of the Greater Pittsburgh region's application for designation as a Tech Hub under the U.S. Economic Development Administration's Tech Hub program. I understand that the region's application seeks to leverage local expertise in biomedical research, advanced manufacturing, and robotics and AI to create a biomanufacturing hub aimed at driving global competitiveness, strengthening economic and national security, and promoting equitable growth. Given that this application has the potential to be transformative for the region and the Nation, I urge you to give this application full and fair consideration.

I understand that the proposed Hub, led by the Pittsburgh Life Sciences Alliance, intends to focus on biomanufacturing, positioning Pittsburgh to carry on its manufacturing legacy. Pittsburgh's consortium of involved entities is rich with expertise in multiple core technology focus areas and the region's position at that nexus of innovation represents a unique investment opportunity for EDA. Without targeted, coordinated federal investment, however, the region faces the risk of remaining a half step behind leading innovation hubs. A Tech Hub designation, and the public and private investment that may follow, would pave the way for the region to level up to true global competitiveness. By expanding existing specializations, the hub could help ensure that the United States is the leading manufacturer of the future of medicine.

At the national level, the Tech Hub program is a recognition of the need to drive growth and activate resources throughout the country, rather than allowing a handful of cities to benefit from the upward mobility provided by easy access to venture capital and jobs on, or supporting those on, the innovation frontier. For the region, the designation provides the opportunity to plan, collaborate, and strategically evolve in a way that benefits national economic competitiveness and national security.

Thank you in advance for your thoughtful consideration. Please include this letter in the official record of the application. Consistent with all applicable laws, rules, and regulations, we also respectfully request that you keep our offices informed of the status of this grant application. Finally, if you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please feel free to contact the Office of Senator Casey at (202) 224-

Sincerely,



Robert P. Casey, Jr.
United States Senator