



November 27, 2023

The Honorable Gina Raimondo
Department of Commerce
Washington, D.C. 20500

Re: National Semiconductor Technology Center

Dear Madam Secretary,

The undersigned California business associations wish to congratulate the Department of Commerce on selecting the inaugural class of Tech Hubs and strategy development grant recipients. Through these critical investments, the Biden-Harris Administration is fulfilling its promise to develop geographically diverse centers of innovation that have the potential to increase our nation's global technology competitiveness over the next decade.

At the same time, California continues to serve as the heart of America's innovation sector. Therefore, we ask the Department of Commerce to headquarter the new National Semiconductor Technology Center in California and simultaneously invest in our state's semiconductor R&D and workforce development.

California is home to the world's leading technology companies, national laboratories, internationally-renowned universities and a diverse, skilled technology workforce. Together, they comprise the innovation ecosystem driving the advancement of critical technologies, including semiconductors. Their proximity facilitates collaboration, access to venture capital and private equity funding, and offers unparalleled expertise from skilled professionals, engineers, researchers, and entrepreneurs in the semiconductor industry.

Semiconductors are the essential components of the technologies critical to U.S. economic growth, national security, and global competitiveness. The landmark *CHIPS and Science Act* has already prompted Applied Materials - one of the largest manufacturing companies in the

world - to locate its cutting-edge \$4 billion semiconductor research center in the Golden State. The project promises to build upon the region's 64,000 semiconductor manufacturing jobs.

California is uniquely positioned to quickly leverage the federal government's investment to help strengthen U.S. technology, ensure our global competitiveness and fortify supply chain resilience.

As representatives of the technology companies, research entities, financial and legal institutions that comprise the Innovation Economy, we urge the administration to seize the opportunity to strengthen our national and economic security by investing in California.

Thank you for sharing our commitment to strengthening America's innovation leadership.

Respectfully,

Silicon Valley Leadership Group
Bay Area Council
Fremont Chamber of Commerce
Los Angeles County Business Federation
San Mateo County Economic Development Association