

September 23, 2025

The Honorable Joni Ernst
Chair
Committee on Small Business &
Entrepreneurship
260 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Edward J. Markey
Ranking Member
Committee on Small Business &
Entrepreneurship
255 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chair Ernst and Ranking Member Markey,

We thank you for your steadfast leadership in supporting America's small businesses and the vital role they play in driving innovation, strengthening our national security, and fostering economic growth in communities across the nation.

Nowhere has Congress's impact been greater than through the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) programs. For more than four decades, these competitive awards have enabled nearly a dozen federal agencies to harness the ingenuity of small businesses and research institutions to develop and transition cutting-edge technologies in defense, energy, health, transportation, communications, and space. These programs have fueled breakthroughs that directly support our servicemembers, enhance the defense industrial base, and drive America's competitiveness in critical technology areas.

As small businesses and associations that represent small businesses, we know firsthand the importance of SBIR and STTR in delivering new military technologies, developing sustainable energy solutions, advancing lifesaving medical therapies, and meeting the unique needs of federal agencies.

Yet today, these proven programs are at risk of lapsing on October 1 for the first time in 25 years, jeopardizing a pipeline of innovation that has served our nation since it was first established by Congress and signed into law by President Ronald Reagan.

To protect this vital engine of innovation, we urge you to swiftly pass *H.R. 5100*, bipartisan legislation passed by the House of Representatives on September 15, which would extend the SBIR and STTR programs for one year. This short-term extension will allow Congress the time needed to carefully consider a longer-term framework while ensuring continuity for the thousands of small businesses who use these programs to deliver results for the federal government.

This is no time to risk America's innovation advantage. As China and other adversaries aggressively develop game-changing technologies, the United States relies on the SBIR and STTR programs to maintain our competitive position. Every dollar of Department of Defense (DoD) SBIR activity generates four dollars in follow-on (non-SBIR) research and development funding. Allowing these programs to lapse would undercut small businesses, weaken our defense industrial base, and erode our advantages in technology commercialization.

By passing the one-year extension, the Senate can safeguard these programs while providing space to craft a long-term reauthorization that strengthens the programs for decades to come.

Thank you for your continued commitment to small businesses and the innovation they deliver for our nation.

Sincerely,

A10 Systems Inc dba AiRANACULUS
Academic Software, Inc.
Actuated Medical, Inc.
Advanced Cooling Technologies, Inc. (ACT)
Advanced Fuel Research, Inc.
Aerodyne Research Inc.
Agency 39A
Akita Innovations LLC
Alva Health Inc.
Arete
Arizona Chapter National Safety Council
Arizona Regional Economic Development
Foundation
Atma Global
At-Sea Development
BBC Entrepreneurial Training & Consulting
Bodkin Design & Engineering, LLC
Boston Engineering Corporation
Bushnell Investment Company, LLC
Business Council for Sustainable Energy
Calabazas Creek Research, Inc.
Caliola Engineering, LLC
Cascodium LLC
Cerulean Scientific Inc.
Charles River Analytics
Clean Energy Business Network
Cleveland Medical Devices Inc.
Continuum Dynamics, Inc.
Create
CRG Defense
Cybernet Systems Corporation
Cynthia Kay and Company
Dawnbreaker
Diversified Technologies, Inc.
DNASTAR Inc.
Emrgy Inc.

EndoProtech, Inc.
Faraday Technology, Inc.
Flightware, Inc.
Frontier Technology Inc.
Gaia Energy Research Institute
Gear Motions, Inc.
Giner Labs, Inc.
Gird Systems, Inc.
GoShare
Great Lakes NeuroTechnologies Inc.
Greenwood Consulting Group, Inc
Hunt Imaging LLC
HyAxiom
Immuno Technologies Inc.
Innovative Space Technologies, LLC
Innovative Surface Technologies, Inc.
Intelligent Fusion Technology, Inc.
Intellisense Systems, Inc.
Invocon, Inc.
ITH Staffing
JetCo Federal
Knowledge Based Systems, Inc.
Kushner & Company
Lawrence S Nannis, Consultant to Entrepreneurs
Life Science Works
Lindsay 3, LLC
Liquet Medical Inc.
Mainstream Engineering Corporation
MaXentric Technologies, LLC
MNSBIR, Inc.
Nanohmics Inc.
Natel Energy
National Hydropower Association
NeuroWave Systems Inc.
NEXUTEK, LLC
Nokomis, Inc.
Oceanit
OMS Group, LLC
Opticyte, Inc.
Orbital Research Inc.
Pacific Antenna Systems
PEMDAS Technologies & Innovations
PGXL Technologies LLC

Physical Science Inc.
Powdermet Inc.
Precision Combustion, Inc.
Princeton NuEnergy Inc.
QUASAR Federal Systems, Inc.
RadiaBeam Technologies
RadiaSoft LLC
RalphVR Inc.
Richard R McNamara & Associates, LLC
RMD Inc.
Rust Belt Recruiting
Sabine Technology Inc.
Scarab Genomics LLC
Secure Digital Devices Corporation
Signal Solutions, LLC
South8 Technologies, Inc.
Southwest Sciences, Inc.
Spectral Science Inc.
Sphere Brake Defense
SSCI
Strategic America
TDA Research, Inc.
The Probitas Project, Inc.
ThriverLink, pbc
Titan Systems, LLC
Toyon Research Corporation
TRI Austin, Inc.
Trystine Technical Innovations, Inc.
Ultramet
VentureCraft, Inc.
VerraGlo, LLC
Vision Products
Windhover Ventures LLC
Xerion Advanced Battery Corp

cc: Members, Senate Committee on Small Business & Entrepreneurship
Senator John Thune, Senate Majority Leader
Senator Charles Schumer, Senate Minority Leader