

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

September 6, 2023

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

Dear Secretary Raimondo,

We are writing to express our strong support for the Baltimore Tech Hub Consortium's application to the Regional Technology and Innovation Hub program and our conviction that the Baltimore region should be designated as one of the 20 new technology hubs in the United States. This designation and funding from this program will have a transformative and long-term positive effect on the region's future as a hub for job growth, equitable opportunity, and innovation.

The Baltimore Tech Hub Consortium's initiative establishes a vision for leveraging Baltimore's current strengths at the intersection of artificial intelligence and biotechnology, with a core focus on predictive technologies to improve health and wellbeing at the individual, community, and national level. The Baltimore region's strengths include its outstanding HBCUs, including Morgan State University, where we recently announced that the National Science Foundation's Centers for Research Excellence in Science and Technology (CREST) program is providing \$5 million to spur advanced magnet and semiconductor research.

By leveraging cutting-edge research at the region's academic institutions and investing in existing core regional assets, the Baltimore Tech Hub offers the potential for developing and commercializing new therapeutics and diagnostics enhanced by artificial intelligence and machine learning to save lives and contribute to advances in healthcare across the country. In addition, the Tech Hub program will build advanced biomanufacturing capabilities in the greater Baltimore region that will strengthen our onshore supply chain and, in turn, the national security of the United States.

This consortium and its members have expressed their collective drive to foster a culture of innovation and inclusion and to work collaboratively to build the foundation of Baltimore's tech ecosystem for future generations. We hope you will share our view of the enormous, historic potential of the Baltimore Tech Hub initiative, and we appreciate your full and favorable consideration of the consortium's proposal for designation and funding under the Regional Technology and Innovation Hubs program.

Sincerely,



Benjamin L. Cardin
United States Senator



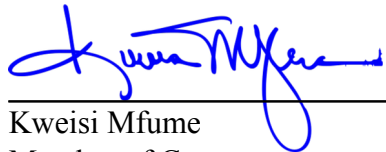
Chris Van Hollen
United States Senator



C. A. Dutch Ruppertsberger
Member of Congress



John P. Sarbanes
Member of Congress



Kweisi Mfume
Member of Congress



David J. Trone
Member of Congress