



March 6, 2024

## **Statement on the FY 2024 Minibus and National Science Foundation Appropriations**

On behalf of the Coalition for National Science Funding (CNSF) – an alliance of over 140 professional organizations, scientific societies, universities, and businesses united in our advocacy for the National Science Foundation (NSF) – we are disappointed by the funding for NSF included in the FY 2024 minibus legislative agreement recently released. This legislation would cut NSF funding by five percent from the FY 2023 enacted level at a time when our nation faces critical emerging technology and competitiveness threats. Further, this cut ignores bipartisan and bicameral efforts to expand the reach of NSF to societal impacts, regional reach, and new technologies and innovations.

While we are thankful an agreement could be reached to keep the government funded, this funding level will stall American innovation by diminishing NSF research, workforce, and infrastructure investments. The House and Senate Appropriations Committees agreed earlier in the process to prioritize NSF in both of their draft bills, and large bipartisan majorities have emphasized the need for NSF to grow dramatically to meet U.S. competitiveness needs. We understand the difficult choices faced in this fiscal environment, yet this agreement is a step backwards.

We call on Congress in future appropriations cycles to allocate more resources to the Commerce, Justice, Science Appropriations bill to allow our NSF's budget to grow. We also urge Congress to include NSF in any supplemental funding package focused on bolstering our defense and national security.