Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 19, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
House Appropriations Committee
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Committee
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the project named the "A Quantum Leap for Northern Virginia" in fiscal year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is George Mason University, located at 3401 Fairfax Drive, Arlington, Va 22201.

The funding would be used to establish a shared-use quantum computing facility at George Mason University's new FUSE research and education center to serve as a test and benchmarking facility for the region's nascent quantum economy as well as a workforce development facility to prepare Northern Virginians for leadership in this emerging technology and the backbone for the development of quantum hardware curricula to be distributed state-wide so that all Virginians benefit.

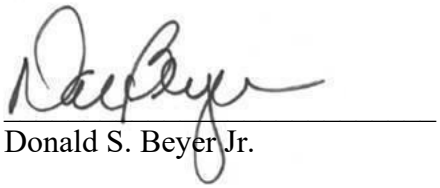
The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it enables test and measurement activities in line with the core mission of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, thereby broadly supporting economic development and commercialization activities. Quantum is a top Administration priority, as directly stated by Undersecretary for Science Dario Gil and as indicated in the Genesis Mission, and NIST has been a leader in the U.S. Government's quantum work, including as a key contributor to the National Quantum Initiative, fitting with its directive to "facilitate the more rapid commercialization of products based on new scientific discoveries in fields such as automation, electronics, advanced materials, biotechnology, and optical technologies." This project directly supports NIST's role in U.S. quantum development by providing resources to facilitate the technology's development and to rapidly transition quantum computing into relevant applications across a wide array of fields once the technology is further developed.

Further, the George Mason University team plans to make the courses, training programs, and testing/benchmarking resources broadly available to the area's citizens, universities, and businesses. This approach will maximize impact and quick adoption. This project is designed to position the region and Virginia as a leading quantum ecosystem and ultimately serve as a critical part of the nation's leadership in quantum technology and applications for quantum computing, which holds deep implications for our national and economic security. Becoming a leader in quantum computing requires workforce development, ecosystem nucleation, and technological innovation. This Community Project request addresses these key needs by focusing on the acquisition of quantum hardware needed to catalyze economic activity, educate, and grow the workforce.

This project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by section 272 of title 15, United States Code.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,



Donald S. Beyer Jr.