The Honorable Eddie Bernice Johnson Chair, House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology 2306 Rayburn Office Building United States House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Haley Stevens Chair, Subcommittee on Research and Technology 1510 Longworth House Office Building United States House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515 The Honorable Frank Lucas Ranking Member, House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology 2405 Rayburn Office Building United States House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Michael Waltz Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Research and Technology 213 Cannon House Office Building United States House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairwoman Johnson, Ranking Member Lucas, Subcommittee on Research and Technology Chairwoman Haley Stevens (D-MI), and Subcommittee on Research and Technology Ranking Member Michael Waltz,

The Graduate Student Council (GSC) represents the nearly 7,000 graduate students of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). We support policies that strengthen American research and innovation while ensuring American economic competitiveness. We heartily endorse the NSF for the Future Act and believe that it will strengthen the scientific community.

We also deeply appreciate the many aspects of the bill that improve graduate student life and believe it will lead to a more robust scientific enterprise. In particular, we strongly support the language supporting graduate STEM education, including mentoring and development plans; funds for career exploration; programs to support historically underserved institutions; and mechanisms for further study of the graduate workforce. Any bill which seeks to strengthen the American innovation ecosystem must address these challenges, as the graduate students of today are the research leaders of tomorrow, and we are very pleased to see these measures proposed here.

If you would like to know more about the importance of increased research funding for graduate students and our nation's global competitiveness, or would like to discuss additional methods of advancing graduate education and research, please reach out to us at <u>gsc-eab-fed@mit.edu</u>.

Sincerely,

Benjamin Lane

Vice Chair, External Affairs Board MIT Graduate Student Council Doctoral Student, LIGO Laboratory MIT Kavli Institute for Astrophysics and Space Research Massachusetts Institute of Technology Cambridge, MA Seamus Lombardo

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