

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

December 4, 2025

The Honorable Howard Lutnick
Secretary
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue Northwest
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Secretary Lutnick:

We write to express our strong support for the KC BioHub and its application to the FY 2023 Regional Technology and Innovation Hub Program Phase 2 Notice of Funding Opportunity authorized under the CHIPS and Science Act of 2022. As the Department of Commerce and the Economic Development Administration advance the Tech Hubs initiative to strengthen America's innovation capacity, workforce, and competitiveness, we believe KC BioHub stands out as a model regional coalition positioned to deliver national impact.

KC BioHub represents a bi-state consortium of more than 125 organizations across Kansas and Missouri—including research universities, community and technical colleges, economic development entities, workforce boards, industry leaders, entrepreneurs, venture capital partners, and civic and nonprofit institutions. Spanning from Manhattan and McPherson, Kansas to Columbia, Missouri, the Hub integrates a uniquely cohesive regional ecosystem dedicated to advancing innovation and entrepreneurship in biomanufacturing, with particular strength in the manufacturing of next-generation biologic medicines.

The region is home to one of the most robust and diverse collections of life-science assets in the nation. KC BioHub's proposal leverages this strong existing base to accelerate innovation, commercialization, and workforce development in biomanufacturing. Among the region's exceptional assets are:

- Four R1 research universities, providing cutting-edge scientific research, talent development, and translational capacity;
- The National Bio-Agro Defense Facility, which serves as a cornerstone of national biosecurity and advanced biological research;
- MRI Global, the Stowers Institute for Cancer Research, and the Children's Mercy Research Institute, each contributing world-class scientific capabilities; and
- Numerous facilities and programs specialized in the commercialization and production of biologics, cell therapies, and gene therapies.

Additionally, the region hosts the Animal Health Corridor, comprising the world's largest concentration of animal health companies and responsible for the production of 27% of the global biologics used in animal health applications. The corridor, along with the region's top five national concentration of bioservices firms, forms an industrial foundation uniquely suited to meet and expand U.S. demand for biologics manufacturing capacity.

The KC BioHub aligns squarely with the Tech Hubs program's mission to grow globally competitive U.S. innovation centers, expand domestic supply chains, and support high-wage job creation. With strong regional collaboration, established research and industry infrastructure, and a strategic focus on next generation biomanufacturing, KC BioHub is poised to drive sustained national economic and scientific leadership.

For these reasons, we encourage the Economic Development Administration to give full and fair consideration to KC BioHub's Phase 2 application. Thank you for your leadership in advancing the CHIPS and Science Act and for your commitment to strengthening America's innovation economy.

Sincerely,



Jerry Moran
U.S. Senator



Roger Marshall, M.D.
U.S. Senator



Sharice Davids
U.S. Representative