

1 A RESOLUTION recognizing and expressing support for Kentucky’s three
2 accepted preliminary proposals for the National Science Foundation’s (NSF) Regional
3 Innovation Engines program.

4 WHEREAS, in 2022, the United States Congress adopted the Creating Helpful
5 Incentives to Produce Semiconductors (CHIPS) and Science Act, which authorized the
6 National Science Foundation (NSF) to create the Regional Innovation Engines program
7 with intent to expand our nation’s innovation capacity by investing in key areas of
8 technology and economic growth in distinct regions; and

9 WHEREAS, the Kentucky-based organizations that submitted preliminary
10 proposals were the Kentucky Science & Technology Corporation, the University of
11 Kentucky, and the University of Louisville. All three were accepted for submission of
12 full proposals; and

13 WHEREAS, Kentucky is one of only eight states with three or more accepted
14 preliminary proposals; and

15 WHEREAS, the NSF received nearly 300 letters of intent to request funding and
16 accepted only 71 preliminary proposals for full proposal submissions; and

17 WHEREAS, the General Assembly has demonstrated its commitment to high-
18 quality, advanced research through the passage of Senate Bill 1 of the 2024 Regular
19 Session that established an endowment research fund to be managed by the Council on
20 Postsecondary Education; and

21 WHEREAS, the three institutions behind these proposals are committed to
22 collaboration to boost Kentucky’s competitiveness and realize the Commonwealth’s
23 potential as a center for innovation; and

24 WHEREAS, each of these proposals have the potential to bring long-lasting impact
25 by attracting and developing industries, companies, and high-wage skilled jobs to the
26 Commonwealth; and

27 WHEREAS, each proposal could receive up to \$160 million in NSF funding over

1 the next 10 years; and

2 WHEREAS, each institution will submit their full proposals to the NSF by
3 February 11, 2025; and

4 WHEREAS, proposals previously funded by the NSF received state financial
5 commitments;

6 NOW, THEREFORE,

7 *Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the*
8 *Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

9 ➔Section 1. The House of Representatives does hereby recognize the Kentucky
10 Science & Technology Corporation, the University of Kentucky, and the University of
11 Louisville's accomplishment of reaching the full proposal submission stage for funding
12 from the NSF Regional Innovation Engines program.

13 ➔Section 2. The House of Representatives does hereby express support for the
14 three institutions' proposals for the NSF Regional Innovation Engines program funding.

15 ➔Section 3. The House of Representatives will endeavor to provide substantial
16 and competitive financial investment to each awarded NSF Regional Innovation Engines
17 grant to enhance opportunities for success and to enrich science research in Kentucky.

18 ➔Section 4. The Clerk of the House of Representatives is directed to transmit a
19 copy of this Resolution to the principal investigators of each NSF Regional Innovation
20 Engines proposal from the Kentucky Science & Technology Corporation, the University
21 of Kentucky, and the University of Louisville.