



May 3, 2023

Dear Chair Champion, Chair Hassan, and Members of the Omnibus Jobs, Economic Development & Labor Conference Committee:

We are grateful for your investment in the hundreds of Minnesota's small businesses, innovators, scientists, and researchers who have a dream to turn their idea into a reality by accessing federal funding available through the annual \$4B Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) programs, also known as America's Seed Fund, two of the largest sources of early-stage capital for technology commercialization in the United States.

MNSBIR, Inc. asks the conference committee to:

- Adopt the House language as this accurately represents the work of MNSBIR, Inc.
- Appropriate Senate funding to enable MNSBIR, Inc. to reach and support more Minnesota small businesses, innovators, scientists, and researchers to apply for and secure federal returns to Minnesota. This funding will allow us to expand our work and support more businesses that are minority-, and women-owned, as well as in greater Minnesota.

Since 2014, MNSBIR, Inc. facilitated and catalyzed 95 small Minnesota companies to secure \$68 million of federal funding that in turn created and retained hundreds of jobs, millions of dollars in private investments, patents, and future products and services.

In 2023, MNSBIR, Inc. has supported 89 small Minnesota companies to seek federal SBIR/STTR funding for their novel technology solutions. We know your support will allow us to bring more funding back to the state of Minnesota by securing SBIR/STTR funding for innovation, research, development and job growth.

Thank you for your service to the state of Minnesota, your dedication to innovation, job growth and supporting small business owners.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Pat Dillon'.

Pat Dillon, CDR, USN (Ret), MBA

Founder and President