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 gsc-eab-fed@mit.edu.

Sincerely,

Benjamin Lane
Vice Chair, External Affairs Board
MIT Graduate Student Council

Seamus Lombardo
Federal Affairs Co-Chair, External Affairs Board
MIT Graduate Student Council

Michael DeMarco
Federal Affairs Co-Chair, External Affairs Board
MIT Graduate Student Council

Visiting Astroparticle Physicist
University of California, Berkeley

Doctoral Student, LIGO Laboratory
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Federal Affairs Co-Chair, External Affairs Board
MIT Graduate Student Council

Michael DeMarco
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Doctoral Student, LIGO Laboratory
Massachusetts Institute of Technology