

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3203

August 7, 2023

The Honorable Lloyd J. Austin III
Secretary
United States Department of Defense
1400 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301

Dear Secretary Austin:

I am pleased to write in support of the application submitted by Cornell University to the Department of Defense's Defense Manufacturing Community Support Program.

With funding, Cornell University will pursue its project titled, *New York Consortium for Space Technology and Innovation* (NYCST). The New York Consortium for Space Technology and Innovation will address the need for advanced defense space technology manufacturing and supply-chain capabilities by fostering collaboration among universities, research institutions, industry experts, and government agencies in New York State. NYCST will drive innovation and workforce development in the space technology sector. The project includes initiatives in workforce development, facility upgrades, research and development projects, and support for small businesses. The expected outcomes include a skilled workforce, enhanced manufacturing capabilities, increased research and development in critical domains, long-term economic growth, job creation, and a robust national defense space technology industrial base.

I applaud Cornell University for its foresight, and I sincerely hope the application meets with your approval.

Thank you for your consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact me or my Grants Coordinator in my Washington, DC office at 202-224-6542.

Sincerely,



Charles E. Schumer
United States Senator