

JAMES P. McGOVERN  
SECOND DISTRICT, MASSACHUSETTS

CHAIRMAN  
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Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives

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April 28, 2021

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Chair  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting funding for The University of Massachusetts Amherst's (UMass Amherst) College of Information and Computer Science (CICS) project in fiscal year 2022. The entity to receive funding for this project is The University of Massachusetts Amherst, located at 181 President's Drive, Amherst, MA. The funding would be used to expand its robotics program. Robotics is a key growth area in computer science, both in Massachusetts and across the country, and CICS is committed to increasing access for all students, including growing female enrollment from 27% in 2019 to at least 40% by 2024. As the state's flagship public university, UMass Amherst is the leading source of new higher education graduates in the Massachusetts workforce; this investment will help meet public and private workforce needs in this growth sector. This project creates a platform for technological innovation with applications across multiple industry sectors, from healthcare to transportation. In Massachusetts, the need for diverse talent in robotics has been identified as a top need by industry leaders. As robotics and autonomous systems become more embedded in our lives, the need for talent will intensify. I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

James P. McGovern  
Member of Congress