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University of Oregon University of Pennsylvania University of Pennsylvania University of Pittsburgh University of Rochester University of Southern California The University of Texas at Austin University of Toronto The University of Toronto University of Virginia University of Wisconsin - Madison Vanderbilt University Washington University in St. Louis Yale University March 25, 2022

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro Chairwoman Appropriations Committee U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Kay Granger Ranking Member Appropriations Committee U.S. House of Representatives The Honorable Patrick Leahy Chairman Appropriations Committee U.S. Senate

The Honorable Richard Shelby Ranking Member Appropriations Committee U.S. Senate

Dear Chairwoman DeLauro, Chairman Leahy, and Ranking Members Granger and Shelby:

On behalf of America's leading research universities, we thank you for developing and passing H.R. 2471, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022. The package increases investments in competitively awarded scientific and medical research supported by the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation, the Department of Energy's Office of Science, the Department of Defense's science and technology programs, NASA, the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative, and the Institute for Education Sciences. These crucial investments will help advance STEM education in the United States and strengthen our workforce. Strong federal support for these agencies is critical to sustaining the government-university research partnership that helps make the United States the global leader in science and innovation.

We particularly applaud the inclusion of the largest increase in a decade to the maximum Pell Grant award, which is an important first step toward restoring the Pell Grant's eroded purchasing power. We thank you also for increased funding for the Federal Work-Study, SEOG, TRIO, and other student aid programs, and for continued funding of the Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need (GAANN) program. These increases will help make higher education more accessible and affordable for low- and middle-income students and families.

We also commend you for approving significant funding increases for the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and the Department of Education's Title VI International Education programs. Both play a vital role in supporting key humanities disciplines. NEH programs help conserve America's heritage and encourage Americans to develop a better understanding of the past and the present. Title VI programs are important to our nation's efforts to collaborate and compete globally. And both the NEH and Title VI programs help generate a steady supply of graduates with high-quality research expertise important to our nation's international relations and security interests.

We are grateful to you and all members of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees for making increased investments in student aid and research a priority in FY22. As you turn toward the FY23 appropriations process, we urge your continued support for student aid, higher education, and research investments that are crucial to the health, security, prosperity, and future of our nation.

Sincerely,

Baibara R. Snyden

Barbara R. Snyder President

cc: Members of House and Senate Appropriations Committees