

March 19th, 2023

Dear Chair and Committee Members.

My name is Dan Que Pham and I am a co-founder of Oncodea. We are developing a multi-cancer early detection platform that is a patent-pending technology and incorporates a novel combination of artificial intelligence, hardware, and cell-free chemistry to detect cancer fingerprints in blood samples. The current struggle in cancer detection is that there is no affordable and accessible solution to test early cancer presence. So people simply go without knowing if they are carrying cancer until the late stages. At Oncodea we are bonded by shared values and beliefs that cancer detection should be comprehensive and affordable. What we are trying to do is to change the world by bringing early cancer detection to the masses, and by showing people that cancer detection can be done quickly, easily, and inexpensively. In order to be successful in that, we've been working tirelessly to achieve an early-stage cancer detection capability from as early as stages 0 and I; with a cost of goods that is lower than any competitor in the market and the best part of all, our test can be done at home, in the clinics, or even at a drug store.

I am honored to have the opportunity to testify before the committee today and share my experience of how MNSBIR Inc. has helped my business grow and innovate. As a business owner, I understand the challenges of starting and running a successful business. With MNSBIR Inc.'s guidance, we were able to apply for funding at the National Institute of Health (NIH) to develop content aimed at making cancer screening more accessible. The funding from NIH will help us to contribute to a better way to catch lung cancer early, which is critical for improved diagnosis and treatment outcomes for this disease.

MNSBIR Inc. played a crucial role in helping us prepare and submit our NIH application. Their expertise and guidance were instrumental in the development of a strong and competitive application. Specifically, their assistance in creating a solid timeline, establishing achievable goals, and writing clear objectives ensured that our application was well-prepared and competitive. Moreover, MNSBIR Inc. connected us with reputable vendors that provided quality services, thereby streamlining the vetting process and enabling us to meet the federal application deadline.

In addition to our personal experience, we strongly believe that MNSBIR Inc. can be a valuable resource for other small businesses in Minnesota seeking to access federal funding. Their guidance and support can help small businesses in Minnesota to grow and innovate, contributing to job creation and economic growth in the state. Therefore, we wholeheartedly support this bill, which would enable MNSBIR Inc. to assist more small businesses in Minnesota. Thank you for your time and support of this initiative.

Sincerely,

Dan Que Pham, Oncodea's Co-founder

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