Mayor Jorge Prince City of Bemidji 317 4<sup>th</sup> Street NW Bemidji, MN 56601

Senate Committee on Jobs and Economic Development Senator Bobby Joe Champion 3401 Minnesota Senate Bldg. 95 University Avenue W. Saint Paul, MN 55155

March 6, 2025

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Champion and Members of the Senate Jobs & Economic Development Committee,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. Over the years, I have become intimately knowledgeable with SciTech and believe that this program is critical to employers in our community who seek to recruit and retain talent in all STEM related fields. As a rural community, it is not always easy for our employers to connect with and identify candidates in these disciplines and this program provides access to a pipeline of talent from across the state. Further, the funding provided can make all the difference for smaller firms in attracting and hiring interns they might not otherwise be able to afford.

Our community's businesses have benefitted from the SciTech Internship Program in the past and I expect that if funded, they will do so again.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech Program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our community and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Best Regards,

Jorge Prince

Joge D Prince

Sydney Chen 18498 Dunbury Ave Farmington, MN 55024

Senate Committee on Jobs and Economic Development Senator Bobby Joe Champion 3401 Minnesota Senate Bldg. 95 University Avenue Saint Paul, MN 55155

February 21, 2025

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Champion and Members of the Senate Jobs & Economic Development Committee,

I am writing in support of the Minnesota Technology Association's SciTech Internship Program. I'm a Biochemistry major at the University of Minnesota – Twin Cities, and I participated in a SciTech internship last summer at local startup Novoclade, where I got hands-on biotechnology experience that involved practicing end-to-end design and construction of plasmids.

Before interning, I'd tried to gather a variety of experiences at research laboratories, and I did. But Novoclade was the first time I understood what the scientific process of biotechnology research is like – the flow, the troubleshooting, and the real-world application of biology concepts I'd been reviewing since high school. I didn't really know what a career in biotechnology would have looked like without this internship, and I left more confident in my ability to do such thought-driven work.

I'm now graduated and trying to seek work. As my applications pile up, I keenly realize how difficult it is to land even an entry-level job without ample experience. I am deeply grateful that I was given the opportunity to participate in biotech industry work with what little hands-on experience I had. That internship experience would not have been possible without the Minnesota Technology Association's SciTech Program.

I strongly support the SciTech Internship Program. I hope other students who desire to work in STEM industries in Minnesota have the same access to experiences that I had through SciTech.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sydney Chen

Caleb Bigham 12051 86th Ave N, Maple Grove, MN

Senate Committee on Jobs and Economic Development Senator Bobby Joe Champion 3401 Minnesota Senate Bldg. 95 University Avenue W. Saint Paul, MN 55155

2/20/2025

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Champion and Members of the Senate Jobs & Economic Development Committee,

I am writing in support of the Minnesota Technology Association's SciTech Internship Program. The program has been extremely rewarding for me, both professionally and academically. I am a Robotics Engineering major with a minor in Mathematics at Michigan Technological University. I was hired by Wanner Engineering as an intern for the summer of 2024, and I have elected to return for the summer of 2025.

During my internship, I led my own projects centered around automating Wanner's most antiquated systems. Their product testing process, for example, has been conducted by hand with paper and pencil for 60+ years. I identified this inefficiency, pitched my solution, then single-handedly designed and implemented an automated testing system from scratch. My system, completed in 2024, has proved so successful that customers from across the globe have visited the Minneapolis location to see me present it. Since implementation, Wanner Engineering has rehired me as an independent contractor to maintain and upgrade the system while I am in school.

This internship has heavily impacted my career as an engineer. My love for the projects that I have undertaken at Wanner has influenced me to pursue starting my own business as an automation consultant.

Where all this relates to SciTech is that I might not have accepted the position at Wanner in the first place without the SciTech program. I had received many internship offers for the summer of 2024, and Wanner Engineering was, at first, not the most exciting proposition to me (note that ALL other offers would have taken me outside of Minnesota). Wanner's competitive pay, only possible from SciTech reimbursement, was the deciding factor which led to this revelation in my career as an engineer. This internship experience would not have been possible without the Minnesota Technology Association's SciTech Program.

I strongly support the SciTech Internship Program. I hope other students who desire to work in STEM industries in Minnesota have the same access to experiences that I had through SciTech.

Thank you for your consideration, Caleb Bigham

Natalie Wall, Director of Research & Development Primal Health

1400 Van Buren St NE Ste 175

Senate Committee on Jobs and Economic Development Senator Bobby Joe Champion 3401 Minnesota Senate Bldg. 95 University Avenue W. Saint Paul, MN 55155

February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Champion and Members of the Senate Jobs & Economic Development Committee,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. Primal Health has hired 5 students through SciTech, and it has been a great asset for our business. The SciTech job board gives us access to a variety of student candidates across the state with unique skill sets and fresh ideas.

Our last interns worked on a variety of projects and added real value to our company. The tasks they completed taught them new skills that will benefit them professionally after graduation. One intern led a research project comparing our oral product to others on the market, conducting experiments on biofilm growth and treatment efficacy. Another intern explored a novel application by testing the effects of one of our oral products on plant growth and reproduction. Their work provided valuable insights into product effectiveness, reinforcing our commitment to scientific innovation. The hands-on, collaborative environment allowed them to apply their academic knowledge in real-world settings, making significant contributions to our research.

We are also proud to share that one of our former interns has since joined our team as a full-time scientist. Their transition from intern to employee highlights the long-term benefits of the SciTech Program, not only for students seeking career development but also for companies like ours that value emerging talent. Their continued contributions exemplify the impact of our internship program in fostering growth, innovation, and career opportunities.

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay our interns competitive wages, but also helped our recruiting process, which was important for us as a smaller company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech Program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Kind Regards,

Natalie Wall
Director of Research & Development
Primal Health

Andrew Jones, Founder & CEO Activated Research Company, LLC 7561 Corporate Way Eden Prairie, MN 55344

Senate Committee on Jobs and Economic Development Senator Bobby Joe Champion 3401 Minnesota Senate Bldg. 95 University Avenue W. Saint Paul, MN 55155

March 3, 2025

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Champion and Members of the Senate Jobs & Economic Development Committee,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. Activated Research Company has hired five students through SciTech, and it has been a great asset for our business. The hands-on research and development internship that SciTech students participate in not only enable Activated Research Company to have access to a variety of student candidates with fresh ideas, it also enables these students to learn in a real-world environment and design real-world solutions.

Activated Research Company recently developed award-winning scientific analysis products. Our last interns worked on improving measurement of biofuels and fragrances and their support in optimizing the reactor we have developed moves this work forward meaningfully. The tasks they completed taught them new skills that will benefit them professionally after graduation. They supported in developing our technology solutions to create better products and showcase their capabilities.

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay our interns competitive wages, but also supported our recruiting process, which was important for us as a smaller company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they can create value within companies that are growing here in Minnesota.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech Program and recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Kind Regards, Andrew Jones, Founder & CEO



Lei Feng, CEO Particle4X, Inc. 1955 University Ave. W, St. Paul, MN, 55104

Senate Committee on Jobs and Economic Development Senator Bobby Joe Champion 3401 Minnesota Senate Bldg. 95 University Avenue W. Saint Paul, MN 55155

02/26/2025

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Champion and Members of the Senate Jobs & Economic Development Committee,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. Particle4X has hired one student through SciTech, and it has been a great asset for our business. As a small company, we do not have the resources to hire a dedicated HR team or compete with larger firms in attracting skilled talent. SciTech provided us with a critical platform to connect with highly capable students, and the salary support made it financially feasible for us to bring in much-needed help at an early stage when our budget was extremely limited.

With the support of SciTech, our intern made a significant impact by helping us develop a functional prototype and collect preliminary data. Their contributions enabled us to refine our technology, generate key data for validation, and present a stronger case to potential industrial partners. This foundational work was essential in advancing our product and directly contributed to our ability to apply for an SBIR grant, which is crucial for our company's growth.

Without the SciTech Internship Program, it would have been far more difficult for us to move forward at this critical stage. This program is a vital resource for startups like ours, providing the support necessary to innovate and scale.

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay our interns competitive wages, but also helped our recruiting process, which was important for us as a smaller company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.



I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech Program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Kind Regards,

Lei Feng, Ph.D.

CEO

Particle4X, Inc.

Lei Feng CEO Sandra Nordlie, Sr Research Scientist SarTec Corporation 617 Pierce St, Anoka MN 55303

Senate Committee on Jobs and Economic Development Senator Bobby Joe Champion 3401 Minnesota Senate Bldg. 95 University Avenue W. Saint Paul, MN 55155

2/24/2025

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Champion and Members of the Senate Jobs & Economic Development Committee,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. SarTec Corporation has hired 18 students through SciTech, and it has been a great asset for our business. The SciTech job board gives us access to a variety of student candidates across the state with unique skill sets and fresh ideas.

Our last interns worked on a variety of projects and added real value to our company. The tasks they completed taught them new skills that will benefit them professionally after graduation. Our interns provided valuable analysis of customers total mixed rations (TMR) including fine particle distribution by sieving and drug content by HPLC analysis. Valuable information that supports customer retention and sales effort.

We have also hired several interns for part-time and full-time positions following the internships' conclusion, highlighting a long-term benefit of the SciTech Program.

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay our interns competitive wages, but also helped our recruiting process, which was important for us as a smaller company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech Program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Kind Regards,

Sandra Nordlie

Sr. Research Scientist

SarTec Corporation

Andrew Thomas Hopkins, MN

Senate Committee on Jobs and Economic Development Senator Bobby Joe Champion 3401 Minnesota Senate Bldg. 95 University Avenue W. Saint Paul, MN 55155

2/26/2025

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Champion and Members of the Senate Jobs & Economic Development Committee,

I am writing in support of the Minnesota Technology Association's SciTech Internship Program. The program has been extremely rewarding, both for me and the company I interned with. I am pursuing a Master's in Cybersecurity at St. Mary's University of Minnesota. I interned at Superior Managed IT in Arden Hills as a member of their help desk, a Systems Analyst.

During my internship, I learned all kinds of things about various systems and helped all kinds of people by working on their desktop computers and printers, which I did have a little experience with, to various kinds of networked servers, software on them, and network software that monitors them, that I had no experience with. I had been looking for a job and was not having success because of my lack of experience.

I learned enough that they found enough budget money to create a position and hired me after then internship concluded. I have successfully transitioned to a career in IT as a result. This internship experience would not have been possible without the Minnesota Technology Association's SciTech Program.

I strongly support the SciTech Internship Program and cannot recommend it enough. I hope the program continues to be funded so other students who desire to work in STEM industries in Minnesota can have the same opportunity I have had.

Thank you for your consideration,

Andrew

Erick Sipila, Owner Sisu Solar 7429 N Forest Ln, Britt, MN 55710

Senate Committee on Jobs and Economic Development Senator Bobby Joe Champion 3401 Minnesota Senate Bldg. 95 University Avenue W. Saint Paul, MN 55155

2/20/2025

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Champion and Members of the Senate Jobs & Economic Development Committee,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. Sisu Solar has hired 3 students through SciTech, and it has been a great asset for our business. The SciTech job board gives us access to a variety of student candidates across the state with unique skill sets and fresh ideas.

Our last interns worked on a variety of projects and added real value to our company. The tasks they completed taught them new skills that will benefit them professionally after graduation. Each of them designed and installed residential solar PV systems and by the time they were finished, they had all the experience necessary to build a solar PV system on their own house one day.

Our most recent intern, Elena Munger was hired full-time and is a crucial part of our small company right now.

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay our interns competitive wages, but also helped our recruiting process, which was important for us as a smaller company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech Program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Kind Regards,

Erick Sipila, Owner Sisu Solar Daniel Beletsky, 6842 Omar Ave Ct S, Hastings 55033, MN

Senate Committee on Jobs and Economic Development Senator Bobby Joe Champion 3401 Minnesota Senate Bldg. 95 University Avenue W. Saint Paul, MN 55155

February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Champion and Members of the Senate Jobs & Economic Development Committee,

I am writing in support of the Minnesota Technology Association's SciTech Internship Program. The program has been extremely rewarding for me, both professionally and academically. I'm an electrical engineer and when I was going to the University of Minnesota Twin Cities I used the SciTech program to find an internship in 2022. The company that took interest in me is called Nuwellis, a biomedical company working on developing new next generation electromechanical medical systems.

During my internship, I contributed to development using high precision digital inclinometers with a UART interface and creating a test setup using LabVIEW and Python. I also performed and completed formal design verification testing for sterile tubing/filter set which included performance, durability, strength, and pressure testing, along with compiling test data and writing a verification report. Lastly I worked closely with the internal multifunctional engineering team and external vendors on a next generation pediatric dialysis system, which consisted of drafting characterization reports, sourcing parts, and interpreting data.

From this I learned so much about the biomedical industry and I ended up spending over 2 years interning there throughout the school year even. This program allowed them to continue having me on the team and allowing flexible hours to help their development while also being able to do school full time. My internship experience would not have been possible without the Minnesota Technology Association's SciTech Program.

I strongly support the SciTech Internship Program. I hope other students who desire to work in STEM industries in Minnesota have the same access to experiences that I had through SciTech.

Thank you for your consideration, Dan

Stefan Skorich, Senior Director of Research and Development Cryosa, Inc. 1265 Grey Fox Rd, Arden Hills MN, 55112

Senate Committee on Jobs and Economic Development Senator Bobby Joe Champion 3401 Minnesota Senate Bldg. 95 University Avenue W. Saint Paul, MN 55155

Feb 20, 2025

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Champion and Members of the Senate Jobs & Economic Development Committee,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. Cryosa has hired approximately 10 students through SciTech, and it has been an invaluable asset for our business. The SciTech job board gives us access to a variety of student candidates across the state with unique skill sets and fresh ideas, and the funding provided by the program makes it possible to bring on interns while maintaining our company's yearly budgets.

Our interns have worked on every Cryosa project over the past 4 years and added real value to the company. The students work on a wide variety of tasks, giving our senior engineers time to focus on more complex problems. As a startup medical device company, we are able to help students develop a well-rounded skillset and learn what types of work they find most enjoyable, versus a large company where internships often focus on one topic and the development of one specific skill.

Two of our interns were eventually hired as full-time engineers and have been critical members of our small development team. The hiring process for finding full-time engineers is often long and arduous, and the internship process gives both our company and the student the opportunity to understand whether there is a good fit before committing to a full-time job.

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay our interns competitive wages, but also helped our recruiting process, which was important for us as a smaller company. We greatly value how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech Program and beg for its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Kind Regards,

Stefan Skorich

Senior Director of Research and Development

Cryosa, Inc.

David Omondi Onyango, 481 Joseph Path Mankato - 56001

Senate Committee on Jobs and Economic Development Senator Bobby Joe Champion 3401 Minnesota Senate Bldg. 95 University Avenue W. Saint Paul, MN 55155

2/20/2025

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Champion and Members of the Senate Jobs & Economic Development Committee,

I am writing in support of the Minnesota Technology Association's SciTech Internship Program. The program has been extremely rewarding for me, both professionally and academically. I am a graduate Data Science student at Minnesota State University, Mankato. Through SciTech, I managed to secure an internship as a Database Administrator with Northflow Solutions Inc.

During my internship, I provided Oracle Database support to developers and customers, working closely with a senior database administrator who mentored me throughout the internship. I also had hands-on experience with developing ad hoc reporting tools and getting involved directly in two AI Projects. By the end of my internship, I had acquired extensive knowledge in AWS cloud infrastructure, DBMS and learnt valuable lessons that will continue to guide me throughout my career in Data Science.

This internship experience would not have been possible without the Minnesota Technology Association's SciTech Program. I am forever grateful to the program for the Internship experience that has helped me shape my career. I strongly support the SciTech Internship Program. I hope other students who desire to work in STEM industries in Minnesota have the same access to experiences that I had through SciTech.

Thank you for your consideration,

Regards, David Onyango Sarah Fogderud, CFO
A.W. Research Laboratories, Inc.
314 Charles Street
Brainerd, MN 56401

Senate Committee on Jobs and Economic Development Senator Bobby Joe Champion 3401 Minnesota Senate Bldg. 95 University Avenue W. Saint Paul, MN 55155

February 18, 2025

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Champion and Members of the Senate Jobs & Economic Development Committee,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. A.W. Research Laboratories has used this program to hire 4 summer interns for our state-certified laboratory since 2018, and it has been a great asset for our business.

Each one of the students we've hired has brought valuable skills and fresh ideas to our laboratory. Most importantly, their college lab and chemistry experiences allowed them to quickly master the necessary lab techniques for the testing and to perform the work to our certification standards. With the short window for summer interns to work before returning to school, it is extremely important that they come in with some basic laboratory skills. By hiring students through SciTech, we know that we will be able to get them up to speed and working in the laboratory as soon as possible. Our full-time staff have been impressed with the knowledge and work ethic that these students bring to their work. Each one has been an outstanding addition to our team.

Thanks to the SciTech wage-match we have been able to offer these students a competitive wage, which is something that has hindered us in attracting qualified summer help in the past. Through the program, we have gained qualified employees who have brought new energy to our company and have allowed us to keep up with our expanding summer workload. In turn, these students gained valuable job experience and an appreciation of the real-world application and importance of the analytical chemistry they were studying at school.

I strongly encourage you to continue support for the SciTech Internship Program. Not only has this program positively impacted my company and local economy, but it has also provided opportunities for STEM education student development that otherwise could not exist.

Kind Regards, SarahFogderud Part-Owner,CFO A.W. Research Laboratories, Inc.



Luke Buer, Director of Engineering Invenshure, LLC 1015 Glenwood Ave Floor 4 Minneapolis, MN 55405

Senate Committee on Jobs and Economic Development Senator Bobby Joe Champion 3401 Minnesota Senate Bldg. 95 University Avenue W. Saint Paul, MN 55155

26 February 2025

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Champion and Members of the Senate Jobs & Economic Development Committee,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. Invneshure has hired 15 students through SciTech, and it has been a great asset for our business. The SciTech job board gives us access to a variety of student candidates across the state with unique skill sets and fresh ideas.

Our last intern worked on a variety of projects and added real value to our company. The tasks they completed taught them new skills that will benefit them professionally after graduation. They gained experience in modern software development processes by working with a team of seasoned developers by writing features, fixing bugs, writing test and automating deployment of product.

Of the 15 interns, more than fitty percent have become Invenshure full-time employees or full-time employees of an Invenshure portfolio company.

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay our interns competitive wages, but also helped our recruiting process, which was important for us as a smaller company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.



I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech Program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Kind Regards,

fim.B

Luke Buer

**Director of Engineering** 

Invenshure, LLC





Senate Committee on Jobs and Economic Development Senator Bobby Joe Champion 3401 Minnesota Senate Bldg. 95 University Avenue W. Saint Paul, MN 55155

February 18, 2025

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Champion and Members of the Senate Jobs & Economic Development Committee, I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. Third Wave Systems has hired numerous students through SciTech, and it has been a great asset for our business. The SciTech job board gives us access to a variety of student candidates across the state with unique skill sets and fresh ideas.

Our last interns worked on a variety of projects and added real value to our company. The tasks they completed taught them new skills that will benefit them professionally after graduation.

We currently have seven employees who were previous Sci-Tech interns that we hired full-time after they graduated. Some of those past interns have gone on to take leadership positions within our company.

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay our interns competitive wages, but also helped our recruiting process, which was important for us as a smaller company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech Program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Kind Regards,

Taylor Pettengill

Office Coordinator
Third Wave Systems

Layer Plotgel

## **Abdishakur Mohamed**

Saint Paul, MN

Senate Committee on Jobs and Economic Development Senator Bobby Joe Champion 3401 Minnesota Senate Bldg. 95 University Avenue W. Saint Paul, MN 55155

2/20/2025

## **RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program**

Dear Chair Champion and Members of the Senate Jobs & Economic Development Committee.

I am writing to express my strong support for the Minnesota Technology Association's SciTech Internship Program. As a Cybersecurity major with a minor in Computer Forensics at Metropolitan State University, this program has been instrumental in shaping my professional and academic growth. Through SciTech, I secured an internship as a Computer Technician at Hacker Attackers, where I gained valuable hands-on experience in IT support and cybersecurity.

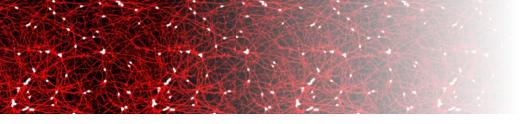
During my internship, I worked on troubleshooting hardware and software issues, setting up secure systems, and assisting clients with security concerns. One of my most rewarding projects involved evaluating network vulnerabilities and implementing security improvements. I also learned critical problem-solving skills, particularly when I encountered real-world challenges like missing key installation steps. These experiences reinforced the importance of attention to detail and thorough testing in cybersecurity work.

The SciTech Internship Program provided me with the opportunity to apply classroom knowledge to real-world situations, helping me gain industry experience that I otherwise would not have had access to. I strongly believe that this program is essential for students like me who are looking to enter STEM fields in Minnesota.

I urge you to continue supporting the SciTech Internship Program so that more students can benefit from these career-shaping opportunities.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely, Abdishakur Mohamed





Senate Committee on Jobs and Economic Development Senator Bobby Joe Champion 3401 Minnesota Senate Bldg. 95 University Avenue W. Saint Paul, MN 55155

March 3, 2025

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Champion and Members of the Senate Jobs & Economic Development Committee,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. Anatomic Incorporated has hired 3 students through SciTech, and it has been a great asset for our business. The SciTech job board gives us access to a variety of student candidates across the state with unique skill sets and fresh ideas.

Our last interns contributed to a variety of impactful projects that directly supported advancements in drug discovery for neurological diseases, including pain, ALS, Charcot-Marie-Tooth disease, and cancer. Their work accelerated our research and development efforts, leading to new insights and innovations in the field. The contributions they made not only benefited Anatomic Incorporated but also equipped them with valuable skills for their professional careers. Their performance was exceptional, and as a result, we hired all three of them as full-time employees after completing the program. They are truly top-tier talent, and together, we are building a strong and innovative biotech company in Minnesota.

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay our interns competitive wages, but also helped our recruiting process, which was important for us as a smaller company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech Program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Kind Regards,

Vincent Truong
COO & Co-Founder

Anatomic Incorporated

2112 Broadway ST NE #135 Minneapolis, MN 55413 Ramsey Shaffer, Founder & CEO Babbl Labs 1317 Marshall St NE, Minneapolis, MN 55413

Senate Committee on Jobs and Economic Development Senator Bobby Joe Champion 3401 Minnesota Senate Bldg. 95 University Avenue W. Saint Paul, MN 55155

March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Champion and Members of the Senate Jobs & Economic Development Committee,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. Babbl Labs has hired 3 students through SciTech, and it has been a great asset for our business. The SciTech job board gives us access to a variety of student candidates across the state with unique skill sets and fresh ideas.

Our last interns worked on a variety of projects and added real value to our company. The tasks they completed taught them new skills that will benefit them professionally after graduation. We've gone on to hire multiple Sci-Tech interns to full-time positions after the program, and quite frankly we would not still be in business if it weren't for the contributions of these individuals and SciTech for facilitating and enabling us to come together.

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay our interns competitive wages, but also helped our recruiting process, which was important for us as a smaller company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech Program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Kind Regards,

Ramsey Shaffer Founder & CEO Babbl Labs Andrew Jones, Founder & CEO Carba, Inc 7561 Corporate Way Eden Prairie, MN 55344

Senate Committee on Jobs and Economic Development Senator Bobby Joe Champion 3401 Minnesota Senate Bldg. 95 University Avenue W. Saint Paul, MN 55155

March 3, 2025

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Champion and Members of the Senate Jobs & Economic Development Committee,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. Carba has hired three students through SciTech, and it has been a great asset for our business. The hands-on research and development internship that SciTech students participate in not only enable Carba to have access to a variety of student candidates with fresh ideas, it also enables these students to learn in a real-world environment and design real-world solutions.

Carba seeks to solve how to safely remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and has been crafting a scalable solution since 2021. Our last interns worked on this project and their support in optimizing the reactor we have developed moves this work forward meaningfully. The tasks they completed taught them new skills that will benefit them professionally after graduation. They supported in designing new systems which optimize our reactor, providing an enhanced solution to turning harmful carbon dioxide into a stable form of carbon.

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay our interns competitive wages, but also supported our recruiting process, which was important for us as a smaller company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they can create value within companies that are growing here in Minnesota.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech Program and recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Kind Regards,

Andrew Jones, Founder & CEO



Advisory Aerospace OSC d/b/a FactoryTwin 33 South 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 150, Hopkins MN 55343

Date: 2/18/2025

Senate Committee on Jobs and Economic Development

Senator Bobby Joe Champion

3401 Minnesota Senate Bldg.

95 University Avenue W.

Saint Paul, MN 55155

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Champion and Members of the Senate Jobs & Economic Development Committee,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. FactoryTwin has hired 24 students through SciTech, and it has been a great asset for our business. The SciTech job board gives us access to a variety of student candidates across the state with unique skill sets and fresh ideas.

Our last intern worked on a variety of projects and added real value to our company. The tasks they completed taught them new skills that will benefit them professionally after graduation. Our interns work on data analytics and software to help manufacturers improve their operations. Not surprisingly, we have 8 full time employees currently who came first to us as interns through the SciTech program.

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay our interns competitive wages, but also helped our recruiting process, which was important for us as a smaller company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.



I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech Program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Kind Regards,

Vivek Saxena

CEO - FactoryTwin

734-249-0961

vivek.saxena@factory-twin.com



Riley Prettyman, Director of Human Resources Federal Package 8100 Powers Blvd Chanhassen, MN 55317

Senate Committee on Jobs and Economic Development Senator Bobby Joe Champion 3401 Minnesota Senate Bldg. 95 University Avenue W. Saint Paul, MN 55155

February 18th, 2025

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Champion and Members of the Senate Jobs & Economic Development Committee,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. Federal Package has hired one students through SciTech, and it has been a great asset for our business. The SciTech job board gives us access to a variety of student candidates across the state with unique skill sets and fresh ideas.

Our last intern worked on a variety of projects and added real value to our company. The tasks they completed taught them new skills that will benefit them professionally after graduation. The intern made valuable contributions by maintaining an organized lab, ensuring proper inventory management, and assisting with formulation tasks, such as accurately calculating ingredient quantities and monitoring batches. They supported product stability testing, gaining insights into the relationships between processes and raw materials, which helped improve product development. The intern quickly learned to operate lab equipment and follow SOPs, ensuring quality standards were met. Their collaborative approach and adherence to health, safety, and GMP standards made them an essential part of the team, positively impacting the success of the projects.

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay our interns competitive wages, but also helped our recruiting process, which was important for us as a smaller company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech Program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Page 2 Letter to

Kind Regards,

Riley Prettyman

Riley Frettyman

Director of Human Resources

Federal Package Network, Inc.



Raghu Chejarla, President HighCloud Solutions, Inc. 445 Minnesota St, Suite 1552 Saint Paul, MN 55101

Senate Committee on Jobs and Economic Development Senator Bobby Joe Champion 3401 Minnesota Senate Bldg. 95 University Avenue W. Saint Paul, MN 55155

February 25, 2025

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Champion and Members of the Senate Jobs & Economic Development Committee,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. HighCloud Solution has hired one student through SciTech, and it has been a great asset for our business. The SciTech job board gives us access to a variety of student candidates across the state with unique skill sets and fresh ideas.

Our last intern worked on a variety of projects and added real value to our company. The tasks they completed taught them new skills that will benefit them professionally after graduation. The intern hired through Sci Tech program worked on our Splunk consulting services.

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay our interns competitive wages, but also helped our recruiting process, which was important for us as a smaller company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech Program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Kind Regards,

Raghu Chejarla, President HighCloud Solutions, Inc. Greg Ackerson President & CEO inBYLT, LLC 3495 Northdale Blvd NW, Suite 230 Coon Rapids, MN 55448

Senate Committee on Jobs and Economic Development Senator Bobby Joe Champion 3401 Minnesota Senate Bldg. 95 University Avenue W. Saint Paul, MN 55155

2/24/25

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Champion and Members of the Senate Jobs & Economic Development Committee,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. inBYLT hired two students last summer (2024) through SciTech, and it has been a great asset for our business. Because of our great experience with the program we intend to hire two or three more interns through the program this coming summer. The SciTech job board gives us access to a variety of student candidates across the state with unique skill sets and fresh ideas.

Our last interns worked on a variety of projects and added real value to our company. The tasks they completed taught them new skills that will benefit them professionally after graduation.

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay our interns competitive wages, but also helped our recruiting process, which was important for us as a smaller company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech Program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Kind Regards,

Greg Ackerson
President & CEO, inBYLT



Jason LaValley, CEO LaValley Industries 1876 23<sup>rd</sup> Street SE Bemidji, MN 56601

Senate Committee on Jobs and Economic Development Senator Bobby Joe Champion 3401 Minnesota Senate Bldg. 95 University Avenue W. Saint Paul, MN 55155

3-6-2025

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Champion and Members of the Senate Jobs & Economic Development Committee,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. LaValley Industries has been fortunate to participate in the program with seven interns placed in our company over the past decade with four becoming permanent full-time members of our Engineering team. These team members being a tremendous asset for our business. The SciTech job board gives us access to a variety of student candidates across the state with unique skill sets and fresh ideas.

Our last intern worked on a variety of projects and added real value to our company. The tasks they completed taught them new skills that will benefit them professionally after graduation. Working within our Quality Control Department, our intern was able to provide fresh ideas for new processes that improved our efficiency and helped us evaluate additional equipment for a more accurate inspection of components.

As I stated before, four previous SciTech interns have moved into full-time positions with our company and are employed with us today. We are hopeful that our most recent intern will join them as well upon completion of their schooling. The transition from intern into full-time has been a great benefit to our company.

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay our interns competitive wages, but also helped our recruiting process, which was important for us as a smaller company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech Program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Kind Regards

Jason LaValley

CEO

LaValley Industries

Michael Lekan-Kehinde, 1469 Clevland Avenue N, Saint Paul, MN 55108.

Senate Committee on Jobs and Economic Development Senator Bobby Joe Champion 3401 Minnesota Senate Bldg. 95 University Avenue W. Saint Paul, MN 55155

02/24/2025

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Champion and Members of the Senate Jobs & Economic Development Committee,

I am writing in support of the Minnesota Technology Association's SciTech Internship Program. The program has been extremely rewarding for me, both professionally and academically. As a Interior Design PhD student at the University of Minnesota. I was opportune to work with Arc McGlory Studio with SciTech providing support towards, funding towards my role working with the firm as a Architectural and Interior Designer.

During my internship, I was opportune to work on developing The Maji Chai land Sanctuary Project, I contributed to developing the sustainability goals for the project , the project programming and other administrative task assigned by the Lead Architect. One of the most acknowledging takeaway form the opportunity is the reminder of the vastness and Architect/ Designer need to make meaningful contribution to designing spaces and the importance of research in this process.

This internship experience would not have been possible without the Minnesota Technology Association's SciTech Program. I strongly support the SciTech Internship Program. I hope other students who desire to work in STEM industries in Minnesota have the same access to experiences that I had through SciTech.

Thank you for your consideration, Michael Lekan-Kehinde

Paul Berndt Founder NetVPro 203 Cooper Ave N. St. Cloud, MN 56303

Senate Committee on Jobs and Economic Development Senator Bobby Joe Champion 3401 Minnesota Senate Bldg. 95 University Avenue W. Saint Paul, MN 55155

February 20, 2025

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Champion and Members of the Senate Jobs & Economic Development Committee,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. NetVPro has hired 7 students through SciTech, and it has been a great asset for our business. The SciTech job board gives us access to a variety of student candidates across the state with unique skill sets and fresh ideas.

Our last interns worked on a variety of projects and added real value to our company. The tasks they completed taught them new skills that will benefit them professionally after graduation. They were brought on as Help Desk Support, they strengthened the team greatly from their education at SciTech Program.

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay our interns competitive wages, but also helped our recruiting process, which was important for us as a smaller company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech Program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Kind Regards,

Paul Berndt Founder, NetVPro Senate Committee on Jobs and Economic Development Senator Bobby Joe Champion 3401 Minnesota Senate Bldg. 95 University Avenue W. Saint Paul, MN 55155

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Champion and Senate Jobs & Economic Development Committee Members:

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. SYNCRIS has hired two students through SciTech, and it has been a great asset for our business. The SciTech job board gives us access to a variety of student candidates across the state with unique skill sets and fresh ideas.

Our last intern worked on a variety of projects and added real value to our company. The tasks they completed taught them new skills that will benefit them professionally after graduation. During their internship, they assisted our engineering team by testing different printed circuit board layouts, troubleshooting, supporting technology demonstrations, developing good operating practices, and participating in team R&D meetings. We are thrilled to have our intern continuing to work with our team through the spring semester and look forward to their ongoing contributions!

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay our interns competitive wages, but also helped our recruiting process, which was important for us as a smaller company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech Program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Kind Regards,

Scott Tracy, CEO

Suc. 1-

**SYNCRIS** 

4353 Upton Ave South, #103

Minneapolis, Minnesota 55410



Gregg Giza, Global Product Director ThermaSolutions 1889 Buerkle Road, St. Paul MN 55110

Senate Committee on Jobs and Economic Development Senator Bobby Joe Champion 3401 Minnesota Senate Bldg. 95 University Avenue W. Saint Paul, MN 55155

24 Feb 2025

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Champion and Members of the Senate Jobs & Economic Development Committee, I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. ThermaSolutions has hired four students through SciTech, and it has been a great asset for our business. The SciTech job board gives us access to a variety of student candidates across the state with unique skill sets and fresh ideas.

Our last intern worked on a variety of engineering projects and added real value to our company. The tasks they completed taught them new skills that will benefit them professionally after graduation. Specifically, our intern made a demonstration display for us the included water, electricity, and pressure lines. The display he developed for us is being used at surgical oncology meetings around the world.

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay our interns competitive wages, but also helped our recruiting process, which was important for us as a smaller company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech Program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Kind Regards,

Gregg Giza

Global Product Director

ThermaSolutions