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January 28, 2025

The Honorable Ted Cruz
Chairman
Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Dirksen Senate Office Building, Room 554
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Maria Cantwell
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Russell Senate Office Building, Room 254
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Cruz and Ranking Member Cantwell:

I write to you to express my strongest possible support for the nomination of Mr. Michael Kratsios to serve as Director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP).

Michael is a tremendous leader, and his experiences both in the public and private sectors to shape and help navigate a constantly evolving and transforming science, technology, and innovation landscape would serve well the citizens of the United States and the President.

After leaving the first Trump Administration, Michael served up until his nomination as a Distinguished Fellow with the Council on Competitiveness providing invaluable guidance and expertise on critical science and technology issues impacting U.S. productivity and economic growth, prosperity, and national security. His expertise and knowledge of the cutting-edge of emerging and converging technology frontiers such as AI, quantum and cyber security are built upon both significant business experience, as well as deep policy engagement. During the first Trump Administration, he led national efforts such as the quantum initiative, and demonstrated his ability to work across all relevant agencies to optimize U.S. investments in research and development. And, in his work as Undersecretary of Defense, he understood and anticipated the growing connectivity between economic and national security, and the need for the Department to partner proactively with America's hyper-innovative private sector on technologies with increasing dual-use applications.

As the Council's private sector leadership and members undertake important new initiatives on the future of U.S. innovation, leadership in advanced computing to support the AI revolution, and the power and potential of the bioeconomy, we look forward to working with the new Administration in partnership with leaders like Michael Kratsios in his role as Director of OSTP.

Sincerely,

Deborah L. Wince-Smith
President & CEO
Council on Competitiveness