

**International  
Association of  
Machinists and  
Aerospace Workers**



9000 Machinists Place  
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772-2687

Area Code 301-967-4500

OFFICE OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

May 1, 2024

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden  
President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Biden:

On behalf of the 600,000 active and retired members of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAMAW), the largest aerospace manufacturing union in North America, **I strongly urge you to support the Spokane-based American Aerospace Materials Manufacturing Center Technology Hub's application for an Economic Development Administration (EDA) Phase 2 Implementation Grant.** This award, along with the continued hard work and partnership of labor, industry, government and educational institutions will ensure the United States remains the undeniable leader in advanced aerospace development and manufacturing for generations to come.

We applaud your administration, Congress, and consistent advocates such as Senator Maria Cantwell (D-WA) for prioritizing and passing the historic Chips and Science Act with language to designate 31 EDA Regional Innovation and Technology Hubs intended to harness and support regional centers of expertise across the United States. These Tech Hubs will help boost U.S. economic and national security by investing in our domestic leadership in innovative technology and advanced manufacturing.

The EDA rightly designated Spokane, WA and the Inland Pacific Northwest as one of the 31 Regional Tech Hubs (and the only aerospace focused Tech Hubs) due to Washington State's clear role as our nation's leader in this vitally important industry. The proud men and women of the Machinists Union along with our industry, government and workforce development partners have worked for generations ensuring Washington is the global leader in advanced aerospace innovation, development and manufacturing. With more than 1,500 aerospace-related suppliers, more than 130,000 aerospace and aviation workers, and a network of workforce development partners; the region is an absolute national asset that continues to grow. It is vital that we continue to invest and support this region as the epicenter of our domestic might in this critically important industry.

The award of an EDA Phase 2 Implementation Grant to the Spokane Aerospace Tech Hub will ensure we remain not just the global leader in aerospace manufacturing, but will ensure we become the global leader in innovation and manufacture of the next generation of materials and processes used to build the future of air travel and space exploration. This award will allow the Spokane-based American Aerospace Materials Manufacturing Center Technology Hub to purchase a 5,000-ton thermoplastics press. This will allow for the first-ever full-scale fabrication of these advanced composite materials and stand up the only fabrication facility of its kind in the

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world. This award will also leverage significant private sector investment in R&D and manufacturing, as well as research and workforce investments from labor, industry and workforce development partners.

**For all of these reasons, I urge you to support and prioritize the Spokane-based American Aerospace Materials Manufacturing Center Technology Hub's application for an Economic Development Administration Phase 2 Implementation Grant.**

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this vitally important issue, please contact IAMAW National Legislative and Political Director Hasan Solomon at (202) 420-5902 or [hsolomon@iamaw.org](mailto:hsolomon@iamaw.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Bryant", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Brian Bryant

IAM International President