



STATE OF UTAH

SPENCER J. COX
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH
84114-2220

DEIDRE M. HENDERSON
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Dec. 8, 2021

The Honorable Mike Lee
361A Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Chris Stewart
166 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Lee and Representative Stewart,

I appreciate your sponsorship of *The University of Utah Research Park Act* to help Utah and the University of Utah to clean up an encumbrance to the University's ownership and use of land for Research Park.

As you know, for more than 50 years Research Park has played a significant role for the University community and far beyond. By making it easy for brilliant students and researchers to stay in Utah and continue their work, the park has stimulated Utah's economy and provided a setting for researchers to translate academic ideas into dozens of commercially successful businesses. The private-public nature of the partnership currently houses researchers from 81 University departments and a workforce of more than 14,000 employees. By any definition, it has been a remarkably successful innovation.

I'm confident that success will continue for many years into the future, and your legislation will ensure that can happen. By ending a minor interest the federal government holds in the land, the University will have the flexibility it needs to move forward with updated plans for Research Park, including additional housing for students, a research innovation hub, and additional locations for businesses that come out of that research.

Again, I appreciate your hard work and attention to the needs of our state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Spencer J. Cox".

Spencer J. Cox
Governor