

31 January 2012

The Honorable John A. Boehner
Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives
H-232 Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Speaker:

I am writing on behalf of The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers-United States of America (IEEE-USA) to express our deep concern that Congress has failed to extend the Research and Experimentation (or R&D) Tax Credit and has, in fact, allowed it to expire on December 31st. The R&D Tax Credit has historically shown tremendous payoffs in economic growth, productivity gains and jobs and failing to extend the credit will have a negative impact on America's struggling economy.

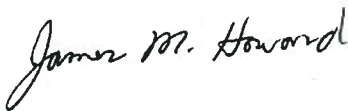
The R&D Tax Credit returns two dollars to the economy for every dollar invested and, according to the Milken Institute's report, *Jobs for America* (January 2010), seventy percent of R&D tax credit dollars are used for salaries of high-skilled technology workers. As the U.S. economy continues to languish and unemployment remains alarmingly high among all sectors of society, proven job creation incentives like the R&D tax credit are needed now more than ever.

Research and development is a vital component of this country's economic engine and job creation, and a key to U.S. global leadership in science and technology. Similarly, the tax credit is an essential incentive for companies to help mitigate the risk of investing in research that may not be realized in profitable products for many years to come, but will ultimately make the United States more competitive in the emerging global market. By providing an incentive for expanding private-sector investments in technology, the R&D tax credit improves productivity and encourages technological innovations that help sustain U.S. competitiveness, create jobs, and ensure our national security.

Support in Congress for the R&D tax credit is both robust and bipartisan. The American Research and Competitiveness Act (H.R. 942) in the House of Representatives and the Greater Research Opportunities with Tax Help (GROWTH) Act (S. 1577) in the Senate would both permanently extend the Tax Credit. We urge both chambers to act expeditiously to pass their respective bills and to immediately pass a temporary extension of the credit retroactive to December 31 that will keep the credit intact until these bills can be resolved and signed into law.

IEEE-USA advances the public good and promotes the careers and public policy interests of 210,000 engineering, computing and technology professionals who are U.S. members of IEEE - <http://www.ieeeusa.org>. If we can be of further assistance, please contact Bill Williams in our Washington office at (202) 530-8331 or email at bill.williams@ieee.org.

Sincerely,



James M. Howard
IEEE-USA President

JMH/bw:bc

31 January 2012

The Honorable Daniel K. Inouye
President Pro Tempore of the Senate
S-126 Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Inouye:

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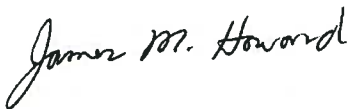
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