



11 May 2006

The Honorable Sherwood Boehlert  
Chairman, House Science Committee  
2246 Rayburn House Office Building  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

On behalf of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers-United States of America (IEEE-USA), I would like to express our support for the engineering, math, science, and early career research legislation package announced by Chairman Sherwood Boehlert. These authorizations to existing NSF and DoE programs will provide a strong basis for building the education and research infrastructures that are necessary to maintain our technological competitiveness and innovation.

Science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education is a crucial component of our nation's efforts to remain technologically competitive in a rapidly evolving global marketplace. There is nothing more important than ensuring that we have qualified teachers to reach out to our students, and that we encourage young scientists and engineers to engage in a research career. The Council on Competitiveness, the Business Roundtable, and the National Academy of Sciences have all unanimously made similar recommendations that we need more science and engineering teachers and more young scientific investigators because they are instrumental to our competitiveness. These legislations are giant steps towards achieving the goals of a globally competitive America.

Our position as global leader in science, engineering and technology requires bold national strategies. Countries like India and China are developing and implementing national strategies designed to enhance their own competitiveness and capture critical market share in the science, engineering and technology sectors. America cannot afford to rest on its historic pre-eminence in these areas. We must invest in research and education for the future.

We commend Chairman Boehlert and the cosponsors of these bills for their leadership in addressing an issue that is vital to our nation's future economic prosperity and national security. We look forward to helping the sponsors of this legislation get it passed into law. For more information, please contact Bill Williams or Vin O'Neill at (202) 785-0017, or at [bill.williams@ieee.org](mailto:bill.williams@ieee.org) and [v.oneill@ieee.org](mailto:v.oneill@ieee.org).

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Sincerely,

Ralph W. Wyndrum, Jr., Eng.Sc.D.  
President, IEEE-USA