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*June 20, 2006*

The Honorable J. Dennis Hastert  
Speaker of the United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Speaker,

ASTRA, The Alliance for Science & Technology Research in America, strongly endorses three measures to be reported soon by the House Committee on Science – H.R. 5356, H.R. 5357 and H.R. 5358 — as well as the President's **American Competitiveness Initiative**.

These bills would authorize appropriations for math and science education, teacher training and early-career research at the National Science Foundation and the Department of Energy's Office of Science. We ask that this legislation move expeditiously to the House floor for consideration and passage.

ASTRA has supported the goals expressed in these bills since its founding six years ago. We are encouraged by a renewed public emphasis linking federal investment in basic research for the physical, mathematical and computational sciences and engineering with U.S. innovation, competitiveness and our national security.

It is our hope that a bipartisan consensus can be maintained in advancing a pragmatic agenda for our innovation future.

If you need further information about ASTRA or our positions, please contact our Legislative Task Force Co-Chairmen Anthony Pitagno (American Chemical Society) at [apitagno@acs.org](mailto:apitagno@acs.org); Christopher Mustain (IBM) at [cmustain@us.ibm.com](mailto:cmustain@us.ibm.com) or ASTRA Executive Director Robert Boege at [rboege@adelphia.net](mailto:rboege@adelphia.net)

Signed,



*Supporters of American Competitiveness Initiative as of June 20, 2006 - 1*

Agilent Technologies  
The Aluminum Association  
American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS)  
American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education  
American Association of Physics Teachers  
American Chemical Society  
American Electronics Association (AeA)  
American Geological Institute  
American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering  
American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics  
American Mathematical Society  
American Physical Society (APS)  
American Society for Engineering Education  
American Society of Limnology and Oceanography  
American Society of Mechanical Engineers  
American Society of Plant Biologists  
Applied Materials, Inc  
ASME Center for Public Awareness  
Association for Computing Machinery  
Association of American Medical Colleges  
Association of American Universities  
Association of University Research Parks  
ASTRA, The Alliance for Science & Technology Research in America  
Battelle  
BellSouth  
Business-Higher Education Forum  
Business Roundtable  
Carnegie Mellon University  
Center for Accelerating Innovation  
Center for National Software Studies  
Columbia University  
Committee for NSLS – II  
Computing Research Association  
Computing Technology Industry Association (COMPTIA)  
Cornell University  
Council on Competitiveness  
Duke University  
DuPont  
EAST Initiative



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Electronic Industries Alliance (EIA)  
Energy Sciences Coalition  
Engineers Without Borders-USA  
Exploratorium  
Federation of American Scientists  
Federation of Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB)  
General Motors  
Georgia Institute of Technology  
Hewlett-Packard  
IBM  
Indiana University  
Information Technology Association of America  
Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers — USA (IEEE-USA)  
Intel  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Materials Research Society  
Michigan State University  
Microsoft  
Museum of Science, Boston  
National Association of Manufacturers (NAM)  
National Association of Marine Laboratories  
National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges (NASULGC)  
National Center for Technological Literacy  
National Council for Advanced Manufacturing (NACFAM)  
National Semiconductor Corporation  
National Science Teachers Association  
New England Council  
New York Structural Biology Center  
New York University  
Northern Illinois University  
Northrop Grumman  
Northwestern University  
Oak Ridge Associated Universities  
Ohio State University  
Optical Society of America (OSA)  
Procter & Gamble  
Purdue University  
Rutgers University  
The Science Coalition



Sea Grant Association  
Semiconductor Equipment and Materials International (SEMI)  
Semiconductor Industry Association (SIA)  
Software and Information Industry Association  
Society for Analytical Chemists of Pittsburgh  
Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics (SIAM)  
Southeastern Universities Research Association (SURA)  
Spectroscopy Society of Pittsburgh  
SPIE — The International Society for Optical Engineering  
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STEMES (STEM Education Society)  
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University of Rochester  
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University of Texas System  
University of Utah  
University of Washington  
Vanderbilt University  
Yale University  
Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution  
wTe Corporation