

TASK FORCE ON THE FUTURE OF AMERICAN INNOVATION

1634 I Street, NW • Washington, DC 20006 • 202.626.4385 • www.futureofinnovation.org

November 13, 2007

The Honorable George W. Bush
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

On behalf of industry, colleges and universities, and the science and engineering communities, we urge Congress and the Administration to resolve their budgetary differences and quickly enact the proposed Fiscal Year 2008 increases for the National Science Foundation, the National Institute of Standards and Technology and the Department of Energy Office of Science. The increases have had strong White House support and strong bipartisan, bicameral backing in Congress.

The America COMPETES Act, passed overwhelmingly by the House and Senate and recently signed into law, demonstrates the extraordinary depth and breadth of support for increased federal commitments to basic research and science education. We welcome this progress. This authorizing legislation represents a landmark for science. As a nation we can ill afford the damage that would be caused by delaying funding of the programs that it highlights.

Funding for these agencies is an essential element of the nation's efforts to sustain its economic competitiveness, national security and quality of life in the 21st century. Past investments in basic research have spurred economic growth and created entirely new technologies, such as the Internet, lasers, high-speed computers, MRIs, and the World Wide Web, that have become vital to our daily lives. We expect no less from future investments.

We recognize that there are disagreements between Congress and the White House over other budget issues. But there is a consensus on federal investment in the physical sciences and engineering. Congress and the White House should not hold America's innovation and competitiveness agenda captive to disputes over other issues.

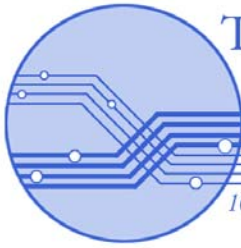
Task Force on the Future of American Innovation

Therefore, we urge Congress and the Administration to work together now to fund the science agencies at the necessary levels.

Sincerely,

The Task Force on the Future of American Innovation

ASTRA, The Alliance for Science & Technology Research in America
Agilent Technologies
Alliance for Science & Technology Research in America
American Chemical Society
American Defense Systems, Inc.
American Electronics Association
American Institute of Physics
American Mathematical Society
American Physical Society
American Society for Engineering Education
Applied Materials, Inc.
Association for Computing Machinery
Association of American Universities
Battelle
Business Roundtable
Computing Research Association
Computing Technology Industry Association
Council on Competitiveness
Google, Inc.
IBM Corporation
Intel Corp.
The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers - United States of America
Luna Innovations, Inc.
Materials Research Society
Microsoft Corp.
National Association of Manufacturers
National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges
Northrop Grumman Corp.
The Science Coalition
Semiconductor Industry Association
Southeastern Universities Research Association
Technology CEO Council
Telecommunications Industry Association
Texas Instruments Incorporated
The Johns Hopkins University
The Procter & Gamble Company



TASK FORCE ON THE FUTURE OF AMERICAN INNOVATION

1634 I Street, NW • Washington, DC 20006 • 202.626.4385 • www.futureofinnovation.org

November 14, 2007

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable John Boehner
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable David Obey
House Appropriations Chair
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Jerry Lewis
House Appropriations Ranking Member
U.S. House of Representatives

Dear Representatives Pelosi, Obey, Boehner, and Lewis:

On behalf of industry, colleges and universities, and the science and engineering communities, we urge Congress and the Administration to resolve their budgetary differences and quickly enact the proposed Fiscal Year 2008 increases for the National Science Foundation, the National Institute of Standards and Technology and the Department of Energy Office of Science. The increases have strong White House support and strong bipartisan, bicameral backing in Congress.

The America COMPETES Act, passed overwhelmingly by the House and Senate and recently signed into law by the President, demonstrates the extraordinary depth and breadth of support for increased federal commitments to basic research and science education. We welcome this progress. This authorizing legislation represents a landmark for science. As a nation we can ill afford the damage that would be caused by delaying funding of the programs that it highlights.

Funding for these agencies is an essential element of the nation's efforts to sustain its economic competitiveness, national security and quality of life in the 21st century. Past investments in basic research have spurred economic growth and created entirely new technologies, such as the Internet, lasers, high-speed computers, MRIs, and the World Wide Web, that have become vital to our daily lives. We expect no less from future investments.

We recognize that there are disagreements between Congress and the President over other budget issues. But there is a consensus on federal investment in the physical sciences and engineering. Congress and the White House should not hold America's innovation and competitiveness agenda captive to disputes over other issues.

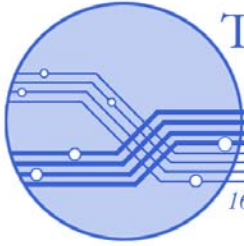
Agilent • ASTRA, the Alliance for Science and Technology in America • American Chemical Society • AeA (American Electronics Association) • American Mathematical Society • American Physical Society • Association of American Universities • Association for Computing Machinery • Computing Research Association • Electronic Industries Alliance • Electric Power Institute • Hewlett Packard • IBM • IEEE USA • Intel Corporation • Microsoft • NASULGC (National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges) • National Association of Manufacturers • Northrup Grumman • Semiconductor Industry Association • Telecommunication Industry Association • The Science Coalition

Therefore, we urge Congress and the Administration to work together now to fund the science agencies at the necessary levels.

Sincerely,

The Task Force on the Future of American Innovation

ASTRA, The Alliance for Science & Technology Research in America
Agilent Technologies
Alliance for Science & Technology Research in America
American Chemical Society
American Defense Systems, Inc.
American Electronics Association
American Institute of Physics
American Mathematical Society
American Physical Society
American Society for Engineering Education
Applied Materials, Inc.
Association for Computing Machinery
Association of American Universities
Battelle
Business Roundtable
Computing Research Association
Computing Technology Industry Association
Council on Competitiveness
Google, Inc.
IBM Corporation
Intel Corp.
The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers - United States of America
Luna Innovations, Inc.
Materials Research Society
Microsoft Corp.
National Association of Manufacturers
National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges
Northrop Grumman Corp.
The Science Coalition
Semiconductor Industry Association
Southeastern Universities Research Association
Technology CEO Council
Telecommunications Industry Association
Texas Instruments Incorporated
The Johns Hopkins University
The Procter & Gamble Company



TASK FORCE ON THE FUTURE OF AMERICAN INNOVATION

1634 I Street, NW • Washington, DC 20006 • 202.626.4385 • www.futureofinnovation.org

November 14, 2007

The Honorable Harry Reid
Senate Majority Leader
United States Senate

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Republican Leader
United States Senate

The Honorable Robert Byrd
Senate Appropriations Committee Chair
United States Senate

The Honorable Thad Cochran
Senate Appropriations Ranking Member
United States Senate

Dear Senators Reid, Byrd, McConnell, and Cochran:

On behalf of industry, colleges and universities, and the science and engineering communities, we urge Congress and the Administration to resolve their budgetary differences and quickly enact the proposed Fiscal Year 2008 increases for the National Science Foundation, the National Institute of Standards and Technology and the Department of Energy Office of Science. The increases have strong White House support and strong bipartisan, bicameral backing in Congress.

The America COMPETES Act, passed overwhelmingly by the House and Senate and recently signed into law by the President, demonstrates the extraordinary depth and breadth of support for increased federal commitments to basic research and science education. We welcome this progress. This authorizing legislation represents a landmark for science. As a nation we can ill afford the damage that would be caused by delaying funding of the programs that it highlights.

Funding for these agencies is an essential element of the nation's efforts to sustain its economic competitiveness, national security and quality of life in the 21st century. Past investments in basic research have spurred economic growth and created entirely new technologies, such as the Internet, lasers, high-speed computers, MRIs, and the World Wide Web, that have become vital to our daily lives. We expect no less from future investments.

We recognize that there are disagreements between Congress and the President over other budget issues. But there is a consensus on federal investment in the physical sciences and engineering. Congress and the White House should not hold America's innovation and competitiveness agenda captive to disputes over other issues.

Agilent • ASTRA, the Alliance for Science and Technology in America • American Chemical Society • AeA (American Electronics Association) • American Mathematical Society • American Physical Society • Association of American Universities • Association for Computing Machinery • Computing Research Association • Electronic Industries Alliance • Electric Power Institute • Hewlett Packard • IBM • IEEE USA • Intel Corporation • Microsoft • NASULGC (National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges) • National Association of Manufacturers • Northrup Grumman • Semiconductor Industry Association • Telecommunication Industry Association • The Science Coalition

Therefore, we urge Congress and the Administration to work together now to fund the science agencies at the necessary levels.

Sincerely,

The Task Force on the Future of American Innovation

ASTRA, The Alliance for Science & Technology Research in America
Agilent Technologies
Alliance for Science & Technology Research in America
American Chemical Society
American Defense Systems, Inc.
American Electronics Association
American Institute of Physics
American Mathematical Society
American Physical Society
American Society for Engineering Education
Applied Materials, Inc.
Association for Computing Machinery
Association of American Universities
Battelle
Business Roundtable
Computing Research Association
Computing Technology Industry Association
Council on Competitiveness
Google, Inc.
IBM Corporation
Intel Corp.
The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers - United States of America
Luna Innovations, Inc.
Materials Research Society
Microsoft Corp.
National Association of Manufacturers
National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges
Northrop Grumman Corp.
The Science Coalition
Semiconductor Industry Association
Southeastern Universities Research Association
Technology CEO Council
Telecommunications Industry Association
Texas Instruments Incorporated
The Johns Hopkins University
The Procter & Gamble Company