



26 April 2010

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House of Representatives
H-232 Capitol Building
Washington DC 20515

Dear Madame Speaker:

I am writing on behalf of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers-United States of America (IEEE-USA) to urge your support for reauthorization of the “America Creating Opportunities to Meaningfully Promote Excellence in Technology, Education, and Science,” or (America COMPETES) Act (H.R. 5116).

In 2007, the America COMPETES Act was passed by Congress and signed into law with overwhelming bipartisan support in both the House of Representatives and Senate. Passage of America COMPETES, which was based upon the recommendations from the highly regarded study by the National Academy of Science report, *Rising Above the Gathering Storm*, demonstrated that the United States can respond to global economic challenges, work to strengthen its technological competitiveness and improve all Americans’ quality of life.

America COMPETES’ investment in improving K-12 and undergraduate science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education, and enhancing science and engineering research provides an essential first step towards strengthening innovation, creating new industries, producing jobs and enhancing productivity. Prompt reauthorization of this vital legislation is urgently needed to help promote economic growth and improve this country’s long-term global competitiveness.

IEEE-USA advances the public good and promotes the careers and public policy interests of more than 210,000 engineers, scientists and allied professionals who are U.S. members of the IEEE. IEEE-USA is part of the IEEE, the world’s largest technical professional society with 400,000 members in 160 countries. See <http://www.ieeeusa.org>. For more information, please contact Bill Williams at (202) 530-8331, or at bill.williams@ieee.org.

Sincerely,

Evelyn Hirt
President, IEEE-USA

Cc: The Honorable Bart Gordon, Chairman, House Committee on Science and Technology
The Honorable Ralph Hall, Ranking Member, House Committee on Science and Technology

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