



19 May 2010

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

Dear Madame Speaker:

On behalf of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers-United States of America (IEEE-USA), I strongly urge Congress to act *today* to pass reauthorization of the “America Creating Opportunities to Meaningfully Promote Excellence in Technology, Education, and Science (COMPETES) Act” (H.R.5325).

In the past Congress displayed strong bipartisan support for issues such as increased funding for the National Science Foundation, the Department of Energy's Office of Science, the National Institutes of Standards and Technology, as well as improvements to Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) education. These are all areas that can have a tremendous impact on America's leadership and competitiveness in a global economy and where common ground can and should be reached.

The America COMPETES Act will create a new generation of innovators, ensure sustained commitment to research and development, strengthen our energy independence, and support high-risk, high-reward pre-competitive technology development. The financial commitment authorized by this legislation is an investment in the nation's global technological and scientific leadership that will pay dividends many times over this initial expenditure.

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. If you have any questions or we can be of further assistance, please contact Bill Williams at (202) 530-8331 or at bill.williams@ieee.org.

Sincerely,

Evelyn H. Hirt
President, IEEE-USA

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