December 5, 2011

The Honorable Frank Wolf
Chairman
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
1016 Longworth Building
Washington D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Wolf,

We are writing to convey our sincere appreciation and gratitude for your continued leadership in support of federal science funding. As representatives of high-tech industry, universities, and professional societies, we were delighted to see that support reflected in the final Fiscal Year 2012 funding for the National Science Foundation (NSF), National Institute for Standards and Technology (NIST), and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). While we understand that the challenging fiscal environment has meant making difficult budget choices, the Task Force also believes that cuts to Federal funding must be done in a smart and strategic way. The FY 12 NSF, NIST and NASA budgets clearly reflect your understanding of that.

Government funding for scientific research represents a deep commitment to the future of our country, and we applaud you for your foresight in prioritizing the budgets at NIST, NSF and NASA. Such funding will allow the United States to keep its edge in innovation and scientific advancement and to compete in the global economy.

We look forward to your continued dedication in helping build a better American through research and innovation.

Sincerely,

Task Force on American Innovation