



21 September 2009

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

Dear Madam Speaker:

I am writing on behalf of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers-United States of America (IEEE-USA) to urge you to act quickly to reauthorize the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) programs which are scheduled to expire on September 30<sup>th</sup>.

A recent report by the National and testimony by the Small Business Technology Council and The National Small Business Association conclude that the Small Business Innovative Research Program is achieving its goals of successfully contributing to knowledge embodied in data, publications, patents, licenses, presentations, analytical models algorithms, research equipment, prototypes, spin-off companies, new human capital, increasing innovation, encouraging participation by small companies in federal R&D, providing support for small firms owned by minorities and women, and resolving research questions for mission agencies in a cost-effective manner.

Small businesses create jobs, particularly for scientists and engineers, which is what leads to breakthrough innovations that fuel large business employment. According to the Small Business Administration, from 2002-2004, small businesses created 124% of all net new jobs, helping offset the 25% loss in large business employment.

The SBIR and STTR programs are both small, relative to most government research programs. But the funds they provide make a huge difference to the companies that receive them and to our broader economy. Our nation's small businesses need to know that these programs will be around, not just for another month or two, but for years. This requires a multiyear reauthorization, not another short extension. Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

IEEE-USA is an organizational unit of The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc., created in 1973 to advance the public good and promote the careers and public policy interests of more than 210,000 engineers, scientists and allied professionals who are U.S. members of IEEE. For more information, contact Bill Williams, IEEE-USA Senior Legislative Representative, at (202) 530-8331 or at [bill.williams@ieee.org](mailto:bill.williams@ieee.org)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gordon W. Day".

Gordon W. Day  
IEEE-USA President

GWD/BW:bc



21 September 2009

The Honorable Robert Byrd  
Office of the President Pro Tempore of the Senate  
S-126 Capitol Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Byrd:

I am writing on behalf of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers-United States of America (IEEE-USA) to urge you to act quickly to reauthorize the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) programs which are scheduled to expire on September 30<sup>th</sup>.

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