



TASK FORCE ON AMERICAN INNOVATION

Agilent Technologies
Alliance for Science & Technology Research
in America
American Association for the Advancement
of Science
American Astronomical Society
American Chemical Society
American Institute for Medical and
Biological Engineering
American Institute of Physics
American Mathematical Society
American Physical Society
American Society for Engineering Education
American Statistical Association
Applied Materials, Inc.
ASME
Association for Computing Machinery
Association of American Universities
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities
Autodesk
Battelle
Business Roundtable
Center for Policy on Emerging Technologies
Computing Research Association
Computing Technology Industry Association
Council for Chemical Research
Council of Graduate Schools
Council of Scientific Society Presidents
Council on Competitiveness
Cray Inc.
Dow Chemical Company
Federation of American Societies for
Experimental Biology
Geological Society of America
Google, Inc.
IBM Corporation
Industrial Research Institute
Infineon Technologies
Innovation Advocates
Intel Corporation
IEEE-USA
Jellen Ventures
Luna Innovations, Inc.
Materials Research Society
Microsoft Corporation
National Association of Manufacturers
National Center for Manufacturing Sciences
National Center for Women &
Information Technology
Northrop Grumman Corp.
Procter & Gamble Company
Science Coalition
Semiconductor Industry Association
Semiconductor Research Corporation
Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics
Southeastern Universities Research Association
TechAmerica
Technology CEO Council
Telecommunications Industry Association
Texas Instruments Incorporated

April 26, 2012

The Honorable Frank Wolf
Chairman
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice,
Science, and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Chaka Fattah
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice,
Science, and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Wolf and Ranking Member Fattah:

On behalf of the Task Force on American Innovation, whose members include high-tech and other industries, research university associations, and scientific societies across the nation, we want to thank you for your strong support for the scientific research and education programs in the Subcommittee's FY 2013 Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies appropriations bill. We understand well the challenge of sustaining these investments under increasingly tight fiscal restraints.

In particular, we express our appreciation for the strong funding level for the National Science Foundation (NSF). The discoveries stemming from NSF-funded research are unparalleled, and the students who are inspired by such research and who benefit from NSF STEM education programs are an important resource for our nation's future. We are pleased to see your strong support for the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), which has a mission to promote U.S. innovation and industrial advancements and co-fund important university research. We are also pleased to see your commitment to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) science, aeronautics, and space technology programs in the FY13 appropriations measure. As NASA's exploration plans evolve, we urge you to sustain funding for the important scientific work funded by the agency.

As you both well understand, research and education underpin our nation's economic growth and pay extraordinary dividends. While it will be necessary to reduce overall federal expenditures to address our nation's long-term fiscal problems, we hope you continue to make NSF and NASA priorities, as well as the research and development programs at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).

Again, we express our deep appreciation for your commitment to scientific research and STEM education. We look forward to working with you to keep our nation innovative and competitive and to help all Americans recognize that science and education must be a funding priority for our nation.

Sincerely,

Task Force on American Innovation