



TASK FORCE ON AMERICAN INNOVATION

Aerospace Industries Association
Agilent Technologies
Alliance for Science & Technology Research
in America
American Association for the Advancement
of Science
American Astronomical Society
American Chemical Society
American Geophysical Union
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
Association of University Research Parks
Autodesk
The Babcock & Wilcox Company
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
The Geological Society of America
Google, Inc.
IBM Corporation
IEEE-USA
IPC - Association Connecting Electronics Industries
Industrial Research Institute
Infineon Technologies
Information Technology Industry Council
Innovation Advocates
Intel Corporation
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
National User Facility Organization
Northrop Grumman Corp.
Procter & Gamble Company
Qualcomm
SEMI
Semiconductor Industry Association
Semiconductor Research Corporation
Silicon Valley Leadership Group
Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics
Southeastern Universities Research Association
TechAmerica
TechNet
Technology CEO Council
Telecommunications Industry Association
Texas Instruments Incorporated

November 17, 2014

Dear Member of Congress:

The Task Force on American Innovation, a coalition of America's leading companies, research universities and scientific societies, writes to ask you to take swift action during the remainder of the 113th Congress to pass an Omnibus Appropriations bill for FY2015 with strong funding levels for research and higher education. A continuing resolution based on FY2014 levels would have a stifling effect on the United States' research enterprise and further widen our nation's innovation deficit, the gap between the actual level of federal investment in scientific research and what is needed for the U.S. to remain the world's innovation leader.

During this crucial time, when other countries are ramping up funding for scientific research and higher education, it is imperative for U.S. leaders to place a similarly high priority on these investments here at home. Federal research funding at the National Science Foundation, the Department of Energy's Office of Science and ARPA-E, Department of Defense basic research, NASA research, and NIST research labs are of particular importance to this Task Force. Increased investments in these entities will enable new scientific discoveries, the development of new technologies, stronger national security, energy self-sufficiency, and improvements in our nation's health. They are also major drivers of economic growth and will contribute to our nation's long-term fiscal stability.

Passing an Omnibus Appropriations bill for FY2015 with robust funding levels in these areas is vital to safeguard our country's economic strength, national and health security, and global competitiveness. Delaying these important funding decisions by passing a continuing resolution at FY2014 levels would set our nation's innovation economy a step back.

The time is now to pass an FY2015 Omnibus Appropriations bill, which will help close the innovation deficit and maintain our nation's innovation and economic leadership. We urge you to take advantage of this opportunity and work in a bipartisan manner to fulfill this responsibility.

Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

Task Force on American Innovation

www.innovationtaskforce.org