

Coalition for National Security Research

November 20, 2014

The Coalition for National Security Research (CNSR), representing the undersigned research universities, scientific associations, businesses, and institutions, urges you to pass an FY2015 Omnibus Appropriations bill this year that includes strong investments in the U.S. Department of Defense Science and Technology accounts. It is imperative to maintaining our military's technological superiority that an FY 2015 Omnibus Appropriations bill includes at least \$2.27 billion for 6.1 basic research accounts, and at least \$12.04 billion for Defense Science and Technology Accounts (Defense S&T); the same amount provided in the Senate-proposed FY 2015 DOD Appropriations bill.

The passage of an FY 2015 Omnibus Appropriations bill will provide the long term security needed to fund Defense S&T accounts that simply would not be possible through a continuing resolution. An omnibus appropriations bill would better support the goal of these accounts, which is to keep the defense research pipeline filled with innovative, cutting edge research to benefit our warfighters. At a time when our global competitors are expanding their research capabilities, we are decreasing ours and creating an innovation deficit that will continue to grow unless we intervene now. A decrease in investment in Defense S&T will have a significant impact on future military readiness and capabilities.

Continued investments in Defense S&T not only support the development of the technologies of the future, but also train the next generation of scientists and engineers and provides critical support for STEM programs. Failure to adequately fund these accounts, at levels already authorized, may have a long-term negative impact on our capacity and our technological edge. DoD's investments in technological innovation have provided significant advances in equipment and tactics used by our warfighters as they face ever-changing threats and challenges. Without sustained investment in these areas, we will jeopardize our military's strength and lose our technological advantage.

Given the critical role of the Defense Science and Technology programs in maintaining military readiness and providing a technologically superior force, we urge Members of the 113th Congress to pass an FY 2015 Omnibus Appropriations bill before the end of the year and the adjournment of this Congress.

Sincerely,

American Chemical Society
American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering
American Institute of Physics
American Mathematical Society
American Physical Society
American Psychological Association
American Society for Engineering Education
American Society of Mechanical Engineers
Arizona State University
Association of American Universities
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities
Battelle
Boston University
Brown University
California Institute of Technology
Carnegie Mellon University
Columbia University
Computing Research Association
Consortium for Ocean Leadership
Cornell University
Duke University
Energetics, Inc.
Federation of Materials Societies
Florida International University
George Mason University
Georgia Institute of Technology
Harvard University
Indiana University
The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers
The Johns Hopkins University
Louisiana State University
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Materials Research Society
Michigan State University
Northern Illinois University
Ohio State University
Optical Society of America
Oregon State University
Oregon Health and Sciences University
Pace University
Penn State University
Purdue University
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Semiconductor Industry Association
Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics
SRI International
The State University of New York
Texas A&M

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University of California System
University of California – Irvine
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University of California – San Diego
University of Cincinnati
University of Central Florida
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University of Houston
University of Maryland at College Park
University of Michigan
University of Nebraska
University of North Carolina System
University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill
University of Pennsylvania
University of Rochester
University of South Florida
University of Southern California
University of Tennessee
University of Virginia
University of Washington
Vanderbilt University
Washington State University
Washington University in St. Louis
West Virginia University
Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution
Yale University