



April 7, 2010

The Honorable Bart Gordon  
Chairman  
House Science and Technology Committee  
2321 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Jay Rockefeller  
Chairman  
Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
Committee  
508 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Ralph Hall  
Ranking Member  
House Science and Technology Committee  
H2-394 Ford House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kay Bailey Hutchison  
Ranking Member  
Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
Committee  
508 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Gordon, Ranking Member Hall, Chairman Rockefeller, and Ranking Member Hutchison:

The Task Force on American Innovation – a coalition of major high-tech corporations, universities and scientific societies – strongly supports reauthorization of the America COMPETES Act this year.

When the COMPETES Act was enacted in 2007, it provided the nation with a broad blueprint for strengthening the pillars of American innovation and competitiveness: increasing the nation’s commitment to basic research, strengthening STEM education, and fostering a business environment to drive innovation. These initiatives were based upon the recommendations contained in the National Academies’ report, “Rising Above the Gathering Storm,” authored by a distinguished panel of educators, innovators, and scientists. Passage of COMPETES was strongly supported by leaders of both parties and received broad-based support in Congress.

Reauthorizing COMPETES will underline our nation’s commitment to policies that strengthen America’s talent pool and provide continued support for long-term basic science, ensuring that American innovators will continue to produce the discoveries that create new technologies, new industries, and high value jobs for Americans.

The companies and allied organizations that comprise the Task Force stand ready to work with you to move this legislation forward.

Sincerely,

The Task Force on American Innovation

**Agilent Technologies**  
**Alliance for Science & Technology Research in America**  
**American Chemical Society**

*Task Force on American Innovation*  
*703-706-0082*  
*[www.innovationtaskforce.org](http://www.innovationtaskforce.org)*

**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**  
**Battelle**  
**Business Roundtable**  
**Computing Research Association**  
**Computing Technology Industry Association**  
**Council on Competitiveness**  
**Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology**  
**Google, Inc.**  
**IBM Corporation**  
**Infineon Technologies**  
**Innovation Advocates**  
**Intel Corporation**  
**IEEE-USA**  
**Luna Innovations, Inc.**  
**Materials Research Society**  
**Microsoft Corp.**  
**National Association of Manufacturers**  
**National Center for Women & Information Technology**  
**National Inventors Hall of Fame**  
**National User Facility Organization**  
**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**