



# 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 113<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.innovationtaskforce.org)