



June 24, 2010

The Honorable Harry Reid  
Majority Leader  
U.S. Senate

The Honorable John D. Rockefeller IV  
Chairman  
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee  
U.S. Senate

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Minority Leader  
U.S. Senate

The Honorable Kay Bailey Hutchison  
Ranking Member  
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee  
U.S. Senate

The Honorable Jeff Bingaman  
Chairman  
Energy and Natural Resources Committee  
U.S. Senate

The Honorable Tom Harkin  
Chairman  
Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee  
U.S. Senate

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski  
Ranking Member  
Energy and Natural Resources Committee  
U.S. Senate

The Honorable Michael B. Enzi  
Ranking Member  
Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee  
U.S. Senate

The Honorable Lamar Alexander  
U.S. Senate

Dear Senators:

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 and encourages bipartisan backing for this effort.

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 would underline our nation's commitment to policies that strengthen America's talent pool and provide continued support for long-term basic science and engineering, ensuring that American innovators 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**  
**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 Manufacturing Sciences**  
**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**

cc: United States Senate