

# SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY ACTION COMMITTEE



Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi  
Office of the Speaker of the House  
Capitol Building  
H-232  
Washington, DC 20515

Senate Majority Leader Charles Schumer  
Office of the Senate Majority Leader  
Capitol Building  
S-221  
Washington, DC 20510

Republican Leader Kevin McCarthy  
Office of the House Minority Leader  
Capitol Building  
H-204  
Washington, DC 20515

Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell  
Office of the Senate Minority Leader  
Capitol Building  
S-230  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Madam Speaker, Republican Leader McCarthy, Democratic Leader Schumer, and Republican Leader McConnell,

As members of the Science and Technology Action Committee (STAC), a non-partisan coalition of non-profit, academic, foundation and business leaders advocating for greater focus and funding of science and technology, we thank and congratulate you for your recent work to pass critical bi-partisan S&T legislation in the Senate and House. The U.S. Innovation and Competition Act (USICA) and NSF for the Future bills and the investments they make in research, development, STEM education and other aspects of our S&T infrastructure, will help to secure our country's economic and national security for decades to come.

Our committee believes we must fortify the engines of American innovation to address existential challenges facing our country and our world. Over the past several months, members of our committee have been among those meeting with you and your staffs, and we appreciate the collaborative process that helped to shape these two important pieces of legislation. As the bills now head to a conference committee, we highlight here three areas of bipartisan cooperation we find most crucial to the country's future, and urge you to build upon your work by addressing these matters:

1. Investments—The U.S. has fallen behind global competitors in terms of the percentage the federal government spends on S&T. USICA and NSF for the Future begin to address this gap, but more is needed to ensure U.S. leadership in innovation and science essential to delivering good jobs and improved well-being for all Americans: the U.S. must at least double its investment in federally-funded S&T. In addition, STEM education programs should gain substantial resources to maximize this nation's remarkable intellectual resources among students and trainees at every level, and produce a professional and expert STEM workforce that reflects the full diversity of the nation.

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2. Leadership—Our committee was encouraged when President Biden elevated the Director of OSTP to cabinet level, something we had advocated for over many months. With Dr. Eric Lander now confirmed and in place, we believe that his office must be fully resourced and empowered to maintain U.S. leadership in discovery and innovation, and to enable focus on specific areas of urgent need.
3. Coordination and Collaboration—In order to maintain our global competitiveness and address the large scale societal challenges we face, greater coordination and collaboration of science and technology is needed across government agencies. A coordinated approach will enhance our national competitiveness and allow us to address threats to our economy, our health, our environment and our national security. The existential challenges we face require a robust national S&T plan that relies on science and evidenced-based decision making while incentivizing and implementing transformative multi-agency research programs.

To build on the momentum and enthusiasm for investment in the science and technology ecosystem, we are consulting with key members of the appropriations committees in the House and the Senate to ensure that sufficient resources will be available to implement your legislative vision.

Once again, thank you for being stalwart champions of science and technology. As you advance these important initial investments, we stand ready to work with you. Please consider our committee of experts a resource to you and your staff now and in the future.

Sincerely,

**Keith R. Yamamoto**  
Vice Chancellor  
for Science Policy  
& Strategy, UCSF

**Sudip Parikh**  
CEO,  
American  
Association for  
the  
Advancement  
of Science

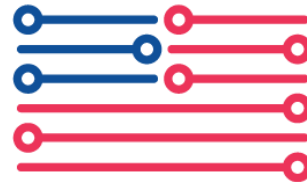
**Mary Woolley**  
President & CEO,  
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**Georges C. Benjamin**  
Executive Director,  
American Public  
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**Bob Conn**  
Former President &  
CEO, The Kavli  
Foundation

**Sue Desmond-Hellman**  
Senior Advisor, Bill &  
Melinda Gates  
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President and  
Director, IBM  
Research

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Partner, K&L Gates

**Margaret Hamburg**

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Commissioner,  
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President, Howard  
Hughes Medical Institute

**Elias Zerhouni**

Former Director,  
NIH

**Cc:**

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Science, and Transportation

Ranking Member Roger Wicker (R-MS), U.S. Senate Committee on  
Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Chair Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX), U.S. House Committee on Science,  
Space, and Technology

Ranking Member Frank Lucas (R-OK), U.S. House Committee on Science,  
Space, and Technology