



# TAPPING AMERICA'S POTENTIAL

November 5, 2010

The Honorable Harry M. Reid  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Leaders Reid and McConnell:

The community of industry, academic, and professional organizations listed below join in urging the Senate to pass the reauthorization of the America COMPETES Act in time to work with the House to make it possible for the President to sign this important legislation into law before the end of this Congress.

The original America COMPETES Act, enacted with strong bipartisan support in 2007, was designed to respond to concerns raised by the seminal National Academies' report, *Rising Above the Gathering Storm*. The Act has played a crucial role in charting our nation's path forward by focusing attention on the critical steps our nation must take to foster innovation and keep the United States competitive in the global economy – investing in basic research and our workforce through effective STEM programs. However, the original COMPETES Act was meant to be the first, three-year installment of a longer-term commitment toward achieving these goals. Sustaining these investments in research, and developing a highly educated, scientifically literate workforce are both essential to our country's continued success in making the scientific discoveries and developing the cutting-edge technologies that will propel our economy in the future.

As you know, the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation approved S. 3605, the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2010, in July; and the Committees on Energy and Natural Resources and Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions are ready to add their portions of the legislation when it is brought forward for consideration on the Senate floor. We believe that this bill will once again have the overwhelming bipartisan support it garnered in 2007, and we urge the Senate to recognize the continued importance of the America COMPETES initiative by passing the bill this year.

We recognize the dire fiscal challenges facing the nation and the difficult choices on federal spending that policymakers must make. Continued strong funding of basic research and STEM education programs will help ensure the economic growth needed to restore long-term fiscal strength and national prosperity.

We look forward to working with you to help advance and enact this vital legislation.

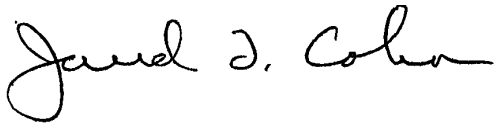
Sincerely,



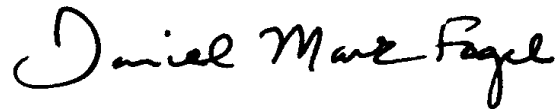
Paul S. Otellini  
Chair, Task Force on American  
Innovation  
President and Chief Executive Officer,  
Intel Corporation



William D. Green  
Chair, Business Roundtable Education,  
Innovation and Workforce Initiative  
Chairman and CEO, Accenture



Jared L. Cohon  
Chair, Association of American  
Universities (AAU)  
President, Carnegie Mellon University



Daniel Mark Fogel  
Chair, Association of Public and Land-  
grant Universities (APLU)  
President, University of Vermont



Brian C. Toohey  
President, Semiconductor Industry  
Association



Deborah L. Wince-Smith  
President and Chief Executive Officer,  
Council on Competitiveness



John Engler  
President and CEO  
National Association of Manufacturers

## **Endorsing Organizations:**

ABB

Abbott

Advanced Micro Devices (AMD)

Aerospace States Association

Agilent Technologies

Air Force Association

Alliance for Science and Technology Research in America

Altera Corporation

American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS)

American Association of Physics Teachers

American Astronomical Society

American Chemical Society

American Geological Institute

American Geophysical Union

American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering

American Institute of Biological Sciences

American Institute of Physics

American Mathematical Society

American Physical Society

American Physiological Society

American Psychological Association

American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

American Society for Engineering Education

American Society for Microbiology

American Society of Agronomy

American Society of Civil Engineers

American Society of Plant Biologists (ASPB)

American Statistical Association

Analog Devices, Inc.

Applied Materials, Inc.

Arizona State University

ASME

Associated Universities, Inc. (AUI)

Association for Computing Machinery

Association for Women in Mathematics

Association of American Medical Colleges

Association of American Universities (AAU)

Association of Independent Research Institutes

Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU)

AT&T

Avery Dennison

AVS

Axcelis Technologies, Inc.

Battelle

Binghamton University, State University of New York  
Biotechnology Institute  
The Boeing Company  
Brown University  
Business-Higher Education Forum  
Business Roundtable  
California Business for Education Excellence  
California Healthcare Institute (CHI)  
California Institute of Technology  
The California State University  
CA Technologies  
Caterpillar Inc.  
CH2MHILL  
Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce  
Clemson University  
Cognizant Technology Solutions  
College Board  
Columbia University  
Computing Research Association  
Computing Technology Industry Association  
Connecticut Business and Industry Association  
Cornell University  
Corporate Voices for Working Families  
Council on Competitiveness  
Crop Science Society of America  
Cummins Inc.  
The Delaware Business Roundtable, Inc.  
Deloitte LLP  
Duke University  
Eaton Corporation  
Ecological Society of America  
Eli Lilly and Co.  
Emory University  
Entertainment Industries Council, Inc.  
Exxon Mobil Corporation  
Fairchild Semiconductor Corporation  
Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology  
Federation of Associations in Behavioral & Brain Sciences  
Florida Atlantic University  
The Florida State University  
Freescale Semiconductor, Inc.  
Frontier Communications  
The George Washington University  
Georgia Institute of Technology  
GlaxoSmithKline  
GLOBALFOUNDRIES, Inc.

Google, Inc.  
Greater Phoenix Leadership, Inc.  
Harris Corporation  
Harvard University  
Hasbro, Inc.  
IBM Corporation  
IEEE-USA  
Illinois Business Roundtable  
Intersil Corporation  
Iowa Business Council  
Iowa State University  
Indiana University  
Infineon Technologies  
Intel Corporation  
The Johns Hopkins University  
Johnson City-Jonesborough Tennessee Chamber of Commerce  
Kansas State University  
KMRM, LLC  
Life Technologies  
Linguistic Society of America  
LSI Corporation  
Luna Innovations, Inc.  
Macy's Inc.  
Marvell Semiconductor, Inc.  
Materials Research Society  
Massachusetts Business Roundtable  
Massachusetts High Technology Council  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
The McGraw-Hill Companies  
Medtronic, Inc.  
Michigan State University  
Michigan Technological University  
Micron Technology  
Microsoft Corp.  
Minority Business Roundtable  
Minnesota Business Partnership  
MKS Instruments, Inc.  
Museum of Science, Boston National Center for Technological Literacy  
National Action Council for Minorities in Engineering, Inc.  
National Association of Manufacturers  
National Center for Manufacturing Sciences  
National Center for Women & Information Technology  
National Inventors Hall of Fame  
National Math and Science Initiative  
National Science Teachers Association  
National Society of Professional Engineers

National User Facility Organization  
NDIA  
Nevada Manufacturers Association  
New Mexico Business Roundtable  
New Mexico State University  
North Carolina State University  
North Dakota State University  
Northern Illinois University  
Northrup Grumman Corp.  
Nucor Corporation  
The Ohio State University  
ON Semiconductor Corporation  
The Optical Society  
Oracle  
Oregon State University  
Partnership for New York City  
Pennsylvania Business Council  
Penn State University  
PMC-Sierra, Inc.  
Procter & Gamble Company  
PTC  
PwC US  
Qualcomm  
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute  
Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT)  
Rutgers, The State University of new Jersey  
SACNAS  
SAS Institute, Inc.  
Science Coalition  
Science Foundation Arizona  
Semiconductor Equipment and Materials International  
Semiconductor Industry Association (SIA)  
Semiconductor Research Corporation  
Siemens Corporation  
Silicon Valley Leadership Group  
Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics  
Software & Information Industry Association  
Soil Science Society of America  
South Dakota School of Mines and Technology  
Southeastern Universities Research Association  
Stanford University  
State Farm  
Stevens Institute of Technology, Hoboken, NJ  
Stony Brook University, State University of New York  
TechAmerica  
Technology CEO Council

Telecommunications Industry Association  
Texas A&M University  
Texas Instruments Incorporated  
Thermo Fisher Scientific  
Time Warner Cable  
Triangle Coalition for Science and Technology Education  
Tulane University  
U.S. Chamber of Commerce  
Universities Research Association, Inc.  
University Corporation for Atmospheric Research  
University of Alabama Birmingham  
University of Alaska System  
University of Arizona  
University of Arkansas  
University of California System  
University of California Berkeley  
University of California Davis  
University of California Irvine  
University of California Los Angeles  
University of California Riverside  
University of California San Diego  
University of California San Francisco  
University of California Santa Barbara  
University of California Santa Cruz  
University of California Merced  
University of Cincinnati  
University of Colorado  
University of Delaware  
University of Hawaii System  
University of Houston  
University of Idaho  
University of Illinois  
University of Kentucky  
University of Maine  
University of Maryland  
University of Massachusetts  
University of Massachusetts Amherst  
The University of Michigan  
University of Minnesota  
University of Montana  
University of Nebraska  
University of Nevada, Las Vegas  
University of New Hampshire  
University of New Mexico  
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
The University of North Carolina at Greensboro

University of North Dakota  
University of Oregon  
University of Pittsburgh  
University of Rochester  
University of South Carolina  
University of Southern California  
The University of Texas System  
University of the District of Columbia  
University of Virginia  
University of Washington  
University of Wisconsin - Madison  
Utah State University  
Vanderbilt University  
Verizon Communications, Inc.  
Virginia Tech  
Washington University in St. Louis  
West Virginia Roundtable  
West Virginia University  
Yale University