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April 23, 2010

The Honorable Bart Gordon
Chairman
House Science and Technology Committee
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Ralph Hall
Ranking Member
House Science and Technology Committee
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Gordon and Ranking Member Hall:

The American Institute of Physics strongly supports a comprehensive reauthorization of the *America COMPETES Act* this year.

Built on the recommendations from the National Academies' report, *Rising Above the Gathering Storm*, the 2007 bipartisan enactment of the *America COMPETES Act* charted a course to increasing the nation's commitment to basic research, strengthening STEM education and fostering a business environment to drive innovation.

Reauthorizing the *America COMPETES Act* will reaffirm our nation's commitment to policies that strengthen America's talent pool and ensure support for long-term basic research, guaranteeing that America continues to deliver the discoveries that create new technologies, new industries and high-value jobs.

This important legislation will help build long-term economic growth, address the nation's most significant challenges in energy and education, and maintain our nation's global edge in technology and innovation.

I applaud your efforts to move this legislation forward and stand ready to work with you in this effort.

Sincerely,



H. Frederick Dylla

HFD/ mw

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