

## INNOVATION & COMPETITIVENESS COALITION

1301 K Street, NW, Suite 1200 West  
Washington, D.C. 20005  
202-515-5193  
[tking@us.ibm.com](mailto:tking@us.ibm.com)

The Honorable George W. Bush  
President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20500

May 5, 2006

Dear Mr. President,

On behalf of a wide business, academic and scientific community, thank you very much for your strong leadership regarding the American Competitiveness Initiative. We have listened carefully over the past several weeks as you have spoken around the country in support of the Initiative. We encourage you to continue working with Congressional leaders to secure full funding for the ACI basic research targets and the ACI math and science education programs. We pledge our support to achieving these major national priorities.

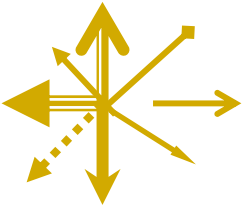
In a world where our ability to innovate increasingly determines our competitiveness, we agree that we must invest in the discovery science, engineering and education that provides the foundation for high-growth jobs and industries. In particular, your budget requests for the National Science Foundation, the Department of Energy Office of Science, the National Institute of Standards and Technology and the math/science education programs in the ACI put us on the right path.

We are concerned that House leaders have not yet demonstrated that ACI basic research investment is a top economic priority. The House Budget Committee, for example, proposed a resolution with \$300 million less for General Science, Space and Technology than the Administration's FY2007 request. If appropriators followed such guidance it would be very difficult to increase basic research in the physical sciences and engineering in a meaningful way. This guidance would effectively preclude the doubling of basic research over the next ten years as you have proposed.

Thank you again for supporting critically needed investment in basic research and math/science education in the American Competitiveness Initiative. We are committed to helping in any way to achieve this goal.

Sincerely,

THE INNOVATION AND COMPETITIVENESS COALITION



# INNOVATION & COMPETITIVENESS COALITION

1301 K Street, NW, Suite 1200 West  
Washington, D.C. 20005  
202-515-5193  
[tking@us.ibm.com](mailto:tking@us.ibm.com)

|   |  |
|---|--|
| AeA   | American Association for the Advancement of Science                |
| American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering | American Association of Universities                               |
| The Alliance for Science & Technology Research in America | American Astronomical Society                                      |
| American Mathematical Society                             | American Chemical Society  |
| American Physical Society                                 | American Vacuum Society  |
| American Phytopathological Society                        | Federation of Materials Societies                                  |
| American Society for Horticultural Science                | IBM Corporation  |
| American Society of Agronomy                              | IEEE-USA   |
| American Society of Civil Engineers                       | Innovation Philadelphia  |
| American Society of Plant Biologists                      | Information Technology Industry Foundation                         |
| American Society for Engineering Education                | Intel  |
| ASM International   | The International Society for Optical Engineering                  |
| ASME  | Materials Research Society   |
| BellSouth   | Massachusetts Institute of Technology                              |
| Business Roundtable                                       | The Minerals, Metals, and Materials Society                        |
| Center for Accelerating Innovation                        | National Association of Manufacturers                              |
| Center for National Software Studies                      | National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges |
| Colorado Photonics Industry Association                   | National Council for Advanced Manufacturing                        |
| Computing Technology Industries Association               | Optical Society of America   |
| Consortium for Oceanographic Research and Education       | Procter & Gamble   |
| Council on Competitiveness                                | Semiconductor Equipment and Materials International                |
| Council of Scientific Society Presidents                  | Semiconductor Industry Association                                 |
| Crop Science Society of America                           | Soil Science Society of America                                    |
| Electronic Industries Alliance                            | Southeastern Universities Research Association                     |
| Federation of American Scientists                         | Technology CEO Council   |
| Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology | Telecommunications Industry Association                            |
|   | Texas Instruments  |
|   | University of Texas System   |