

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

April 10, 2008

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable John Boehner
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Charlie Rangel
Chairman
Committee on Ways and Means

The Honorable Jim McCrery
Ranking Member
Committee on Ways and Means

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Minority Leader Boehner, Chairman Rangel and Ranking Member McCrery:

As Members of the House Committee on Science and Technology, we are writing to urge your support for a seamless extension and expansion of the research and development (R&D) tax credit.

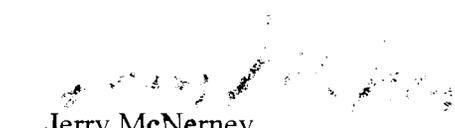
Research and development is the lifeblood of innovation and is vital to national security. Scientists and economists alike agree that it is a driving force of economic growth. The R&D tax credit provides an effective means of encouraging companies to start or expand their American-based research activities, which keeps jobs in the U.S. Given the high level of international competition, a multi-year extension and strengthening of the R&D tax credit will create domestic job and GDP growth, as well as help serve our national security.

Unfortunately, the R&D tax credit recently expired, putting our long term economic growth, and potentially our national security, at risk. A multi-year or permanent extension of the R&D tax credit will provide much needed certainty to the U.S. technology and manufacturing sectors, which rely heavily on scientific research.

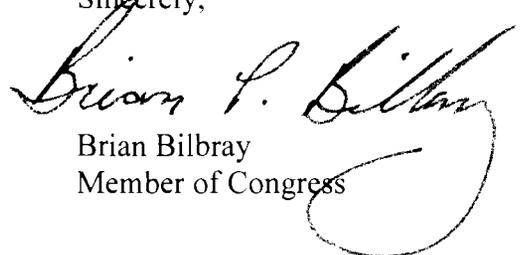
The R&D tax credit is a proven incentive that encourages U.S. companies to conduct domestic high-tech scientific research. The U.S. leads the world in innovation, and the growth of our economy is closely tied to the ability of American companies to make commitments to lengthy and high cost research initiatives. Extending and strengthening the R&D tax credit will help continue America's leadership in innovation and will have a profound stimulating effect on the U.S. economy.

We look forward to working with you and your staff to continue our shared commitment to research, development, and experimentation.

Sincerely,


Jerry McNerney
Member of Congress

Sincerely,


Brian Bilbray
Member of Congress



Bart Gordon
Member of Congress



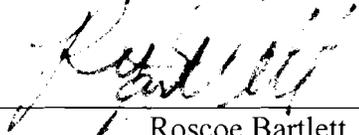
Ralph Hall
Member of Congress



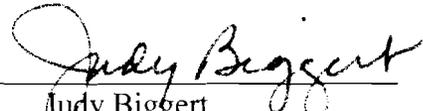
Brian Baird
Member of Congress



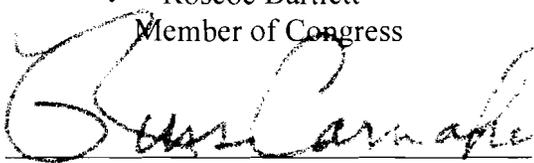
Vernon Ehlers
Member of Congress



Roscoe Bartlett
Member of Congress



Judy Biggert
Member of Congress



Russ Carnahan
Member of Congress



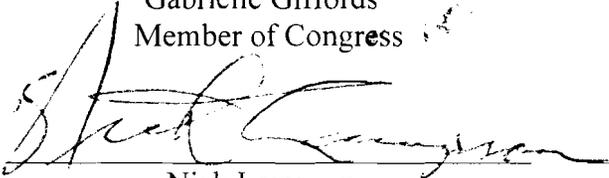
Michael McCaul
Member of Congress



Gabrielle Giffords
Member of Congress



Bob Inglis
Member of Congress



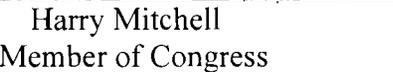
Nick Lampson
Member of Congress



Daniel Lipinski
Member of Congress



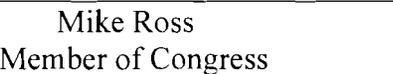
Brad Miller
Member of Congress



Harry Mitchell
Member of Congress



David Reichert
Member of Congress



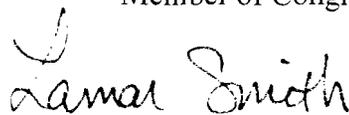
Mike Ross
Member of Congress



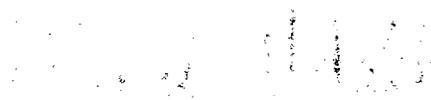
Steven Rothman
Member of Congress



James Sensenbrenner
Member of Congress



Lamar Smith
Member of Congress



Mark Udall
Member of Congress



David Wu
Member of Congress