December 2, 2014

The Honorable John Culberson
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Culberson:

The Coalition for National Science Funding (CNSF) congratulates you on your appointment as Chairman of the House Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee for the 114th Congress.

CNSF appreciates your ongoing support of the National Science Foundation (NSF). Your continued commitment to NSF is essential at a time when federal investments in research agencies are not keeping pace with inflation, and our foreign competitors are making significant investments in science and engineering research and education. The country is facing an innovation deficit – the widening gap between the actual level of federal government funding for research and higher education and what the investment needs to be if the United States is to remain the world’s innovation leader.

NSF is the only agency that funds research and education across all science, engineering and mathematical disciplines and as you are well aware, fundamental research supported by NSF has contributed to new discoveries and the development of new technologies that have led to the creation of companies such as Google, Akamai, Amyris, EPIR Technologies, Eucalyptus Systems, and others. Additionally, two hundred and fourteen Nobel laureates have received research funding through NSF, with one hundred and eighty of these laureates receiving NSF funding before being awarded the Nobel Prize.

NSF will be an important agency in closing the innovation deficit, thus requiring NSF budgets that provide sustained real growth. CNSF looks forward to working with you in support of NSF.

Sincerely,

Sam Rankin
CNSF Chair

The Coalition for National Science Funding (CNSF) is an alliance of over 140 professional societies, universities, and corporations advocating support for the National Science Foundation.

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