



TASK FORCE ON THE FUTURE OF AMERICAN INNOVATION

1634 I Street, NW • Washington, DC 20006 • 202.626.4385 • www.futureofinnovation.org

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CONTACT: Barry Toiv
Association of American Universities
202-408-7500, barry_toiv@aau.edu

INNOVATION TASK FORCE CONGRATULATES CONGRESS ON PROGRESS ON BIPARTISAN COMPETITIVENESS LEGISLATION

URGES SWIFT ACTION TO ENACT MEASURES INTO LAW

Following is a statement by Douglas Comer, Director of Legal Affairs and Technology Policy for Intel Corporation and chair of the Task Force on the Future of American Innovation (www.futureofinnovation.org), congratulating the House and Senate on adopting comprehensive innovation and competitiveness legislation by substantial bipartisan majorities, and urging swift action to enact the measures into law.

On May 21, the House combined several bills into one comprehensive package (H.R. 2272) and approved that measure. While the House and Senate have passed different measures, both have approved bills to authorize increased research funding and create important new programs at agencies critical to our national competitiveness including the National Science Foundation, Department of Energy Office of Science, and National Institute of Standards and Technology. These measures also aim to improve math and science education at all levels.

On behalf of the nation's business, higher education, and scientific and engineering communities, we commend the House and Senate for adopting comprehensive legislation to advance the nation's competitiveness and innovative capacity. We are particularly encouraged that every measure has received strong bipartisan support in both bodies. These measures would help maintain America's global leadership in science, mathematics, and engineering, and help keep our economy strong and our nation secure.

We are confident that Congress and the White House can work out the differences in the various bills, so that President Bush can sign this legislation into law.

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The [Task Force on the Future of American Innovation](http://www.futureofinnovation.org), a coalition of businesses and business organizations, scientific societies, and higher education associations, was founded in 2004 to advocate greater federal investments for basic research in the physical sciences and engineering. The group focuses on the National Science Foundation, the Department of Energy Office of Science, the Department of Defense research budget, and the National Institute of Standards and Technology labs at the Department of Commerce.