FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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TASK FORCE ON THE FUTURE OF AMERICAN INNOVATION URGES SENATE TO ADOPT HOUSE-PASSED FISCAL 2007 FUNDING MEASURE

Following is a statement by the Task Force on the Future of American Innovation (www.futureofinnovation.org) urging the Senate to approve the Fiscal Year 2007 continuing funding resolution adopted by the House. The measure provides significant new investments in basic research at the National Science Foundation, the Department of Energy Office of Science, and the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

The nation’s business, higher education, and scientific and engineering communities strongly support the investments in basic research approved by the House on January 31 as part of the FY 2007 funding measure. We commend the House for its passage of this legislation and urge the Senate to approve it as passed by the House.

We recognize that the authors of this legislation had to make difficult choices to find the resources to make these investments. We are pleased at the determination of Congress and the President to ensure this nation’s long-term competitiveness by investing in basic research in the physical sciences and engineering. Such research leads to the discoveries and innovations that are the basis of economic growth and national security.

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The Task Force on the Future of American Innovation, 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.