



February 20, 2020

The Honorable Richard Shelby
Chairman
Subcommittee on Defense
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Pete Visclosky
Chairman
Subcommittee on Defense
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Richard Durbin
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Defense
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Ken Calvert
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Defense
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairmen Shelby and Visclosky, and Ranking Members Durbin and Calvert,

The undersigned members of the Coalition for National Security Research (CNSR) would like to thank you for your strong support for the robust Defense Science & Technology (S&T) funding levels in the final FY 2020 National Security Appropriations Minibus. We remain deeply appreciative of the extraordinary amount of work that you have put into ensuring that the future U.S. technological superiority is not sacrificed to more immediate budget demands.

As the rate of technological advancement globally continues to accelerate, we increasingly will run the risk of being outpaced by adversaries that are seeking to exploit potential gaps in our ability to keep pace. The FY 2020 Defense Appropriations bill is an encouraging statement that Congress recognizes this threat and has the vision to look beyond the threats that we currently face to those we will face twenty, thirty and forty years from now.

Specifically, we are pleased with the increases in funding for University Research Initiatives across all military Services. Funding for the multidisciplinary university research initiative (MURI) and defense university research instrumentation program (DURIP) remain among our top priorities as they regularly sponsor university basic research that produces revolutionary new military technologies in critical areas such as quantum materials, biologically-enhanced sensing and computing, autonomous reasoning, and adaptive materials.

We applaud this bill as exemplary of the delicate balance that must be struck between immediate and long-term considerations. As the nation's premier national security research organizations, we are committed to fortifying the leading edge of technological innovation in the United States. We look forward to continuing to work with you during the FY 2021 appropriations process.

Sincerely,

Aerospace Industries Association (AIA)
American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS)
American Chemical Society (ACS)
American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering
American Mathematical Society (AMS)
American Psychological Association (APA)
American Society for Engineering Education
Arizona State University
ASME
Association of American Universities (AAU)
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU)
Battelle
Boston University
Brown University
California Institute of Technology
Carnegie Mellon University
Columbia University
Computing Research Association
Consortium for Ocean Leadership
Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA)
Cornell University
Duke University
Dupont
Energetics, Inc.
Federation of Associations in Behavioral & Brain Sciences (FABBS)
Federation of Materials Societies
Florida International University
Florida State University
George Mason University
Georgia Institute of Technology
Harvard University
IEEE-USA
Indiana University
Lehigh University
Louisiana State University
Louisiana Tech University
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Materials Research Society
Michigan State University
Michigan Technological University
New Mexico State University
Northeastern University
Northern Illinois University
Northwestern University
Oak Ridge Associated Universities
Ohio State University
Oregon Health and Sciences University
Oregon State University
OSA-The Optical Society
Pace University
Penn State University
Princeton University
Purdue University
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
Scripps Institution of Oceanography
Semiconductor Industry Association

Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics
SPIE, the international society for optics and photonics
SRI International
Temple University
Texas A&M University
The Catholic University of America
The George Washington University
The Johns Hopkins University
The State University of New York
University of Arizona
University of California System
University of California, Davis
University of California, Irvine
University of California, Los Angeles
University of California, Riverside
University of California, San Diego
University of Central Florida
University of Chicago
University of Cincinnati
University of Colorado Boulder
University of Delaware
University of Florida
University of Houston
University of Illinois System
University of Iowa
University of Kansas
University of Maryland at College Park
University of Michigan
University of Missouri System
University of Nebraska
University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill
University of North Carolina System
University of Oklahoma
University of Pennsylvania
University of Pittsburgh
University of Rhode Island
University of Rochester
University of South Florida
University of Southern California
University of Tennessee
University of Texas at San Antonio
University of Texas System
University of Virginia
University of Washington
University of Wisconsin - Madison
Vanderbilt University
Virginia Commonwealth University
Washington State University
West Virginia University
William & Mary
Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution
Yale University