



ENERGY SCIENCES COALITION

October 11, 2018

Dear Chairman Murkowski and Ranking Member Cantwell,

The Energy Sciences Coalition (ESC) thanks you for your strong support and leadership in advancing the Department of Energy Research and Innovation Act (H.R. 589), which was recently signed into law by President Trump. We also want to thank the Committee staff – Brianne Miller, Ben Reinke and Scott McKee – for their professionalism and interest in the research priorities of the science community. This legislation is the first comprehensive policy authorization in 11 years for the Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Science, including its six primary research programs, affirming the importance of its contributions to the United States' energy security, economic competitiveness, and national security.

The DOE Office of Science is the nation's preeminent federal sponsor of early stage physical sciences research, with impacts in disparate fields including energy, medicine and defense. This legislation recognizes the importance of the DOE Office of Science in sponsoring research programs vital to American prosperity and security, maintaining the U.S. pipeline of science and engineering talent, building world-class scientific tools and facilities, and supporting the network of DOE National Laboratories.

Specifically, H.R. 589 identifies and advances crucial research activities and science infrastructure across all of the DOE Office of Science programs. Its focus on improving technology transfer at the national labs and continuing support of the Energy Frontier Research Centers and the Energy Innovation Hubs – which both help bring universities, national laboratories, nonprofits and industry together – will accelerate research toward meeting our critical energy challenges. Additionally, the bill's inclusion of crosscutting, multidisciplinary research initiatives, such as solar fuels and energy storage, will help accelerate the pace of innovation for potentially transformative energy technologies.

Thank you again for your leadership and support for the DOE Office of Science. ESC members look forward to continuing to work with you and your colleagues to advance the mission of DOE and help the U.S. maintain its position as a global leader in science, technology and innovation.

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The Energy Sciences Coalition (ESC) is a broad-based coalition of organizations representing scientists, engineers and mathematicians in universities, industry and national laboratories who are committed to supporting and advancing the scientific research programs of the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), and in particular, the DOE Office of Science.

ESC Membership

Acoustical Society of America
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American Association of Physics Teachers
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American Chemical Society
American Crystallographic Association, Inc.
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