COUNCIL ON COMPETITIVENESS STATEMENT

Council Members Urge Congress Not to Give Up on Science

The Council on Competitiveness and its member CEOs, university and college presidents and chancellors, labor leaders, and national lab directors enthusiastically applauded the passage of the landmark CHIPS and Science Act (Act).

This bipartisan law authorized critical funding for U.S. science agencies, including the National Science Foundation, the National Institute for Standard and Technology, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and the Department of Energy’s many research intensive offices to ensure U.S. leadership in technology-based innovation and its long-term competitiveness.

Since the Act’s passage, neither White House budget requests nor congressional appropriations have met the goals for the “Science” portion of the Act.

With the recent passage of the FY2024 appropriations bills, the gap between actual and authorized funding has ballooned to alarming proportions, placing the United States at significantly heightened economic and national security risks. There is now a funding gap of more than $6 billion for the National Science Foundation alone.

U.S. innovation is fundamental to national competitiveness and economic prosperity. The challenges to U.S. global leadership in science and technology that spurred passage of the Act in 2022 remain as pressing as ever. If the country fails to make needed investments in talent, technology, infrastructure, and innovation, the nation’s capacity to grow its economy, create jobs, maintain national security, solve societal challenges, and provide a social safety net will falter.

Endorsed by
as of May 28, 2024

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We, the undersigned, urge Congress to honor its commitment to advancing U.S. leadership in science and technology and fully fund the CHIPS and Science Act in FY2025. Doing so will position the nation to lead the world in research, development, and the application of the next generation of technologies that will drive U.S. competitiveness for decades to come.

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