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.
Acoustical Society of America
American Association for the Advancement of Science
American Association of Physicists in Medicine
American Association of Physics Teachers
American Astronomical Society
American Chemical Society
American Crystallographic Association, Inc.
American Geophysical Union
American Geosciences Institute
American Institute of Physics
American Mathematical Society
American Physical Society
American Society for Engineering Education
American Society of Agronomy
American Society of Mechanical Engineers
American Society for Microbiology
American Society of Plant Biologists
American Vacuum Society
Arizona State University
Association of American Universities
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities
Battelle
Binghamton University
Biophysical Society
Boston University
Case Western Reserve University
City College of CUNY
Clemson University
Coalition for Academic Scientific Computation
Consortium for Ocean Leadership
Columbia University
Computing Research Association
Council of Scientific Society Presidents
Cornell University
Cray Inc.
Crop Science Society of America
Duke University
The Ecological Society of America
Florida State University
Fusion Power Associates
General Atomics
Geological Society of America
George Mason University
Georgia Institute of Technology
Harvard University
IBM
IEEE-USA

Iowa State University
Jefferson Science Associates, LLC
Krell Institute
Lehigh University
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Materials Research Society
Michigan State University
Michigan Technological University
New York University
Northeastern University
Northern Illinois University
Northwestern University
Oak Ridge Associated Universities
OSA—The Optical Society
Pace University
Penn State University
Princeton University
Purdue University
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics
Soil Science Society of America
South Dakota School of Mines
Southeastern Universities Research Association
Stanford University
Stony Brook University
Tech-X
The Ohio State University
University of California System
University of Chicago
University of Colorado Boulder
University of Delaware
University of Florida
University of Iowa
University of Maryland, College Park
University of Michigan
University of Missouri System
University of North Texas
University of Pennsylvania
University of Rochester
University of Southern California
University of Texas at Austin
University of Virginia
University of Wisconsin-Madison
Vanderbilt University
Washington State University
Washington University in St. Louis
West Virginia University
Yale University