

July 8, 2016

The Honorable Dick Durbin
U.S. Senate
711 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Durbin,

On behalf of the Coalition for National Security Research (CNSR), a broad-based coalition of research universities and institutes, scientific and professional associations, and industry, I am writing to thank you for your support for the defense research enterprise. I am tremendously grateful for your leadership in supporting the Congressional Directed Medical Research Programs in the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 and the Defense Science and Technology (S&T) programs in the FY 17 Department of Defense Appropriations Bill.

As the world continues to become more volatile and dangerous, defense research funding ensures that our best and brightest are actively engaged now and in the future to provide America's military technical superiority. Additionally, defense scientific research is ensuring that we help those men and women who have selflessly served our country and subsequently face challenges such as nerve regeneration, traumatic brain injury and post-traumatic stress disorder. We owe it to the soldiers on the battlefield and the veterans returning home to provide the most effective military capabilities and medical therapies, and in order to do so we must invest in defense scientific research.

CNSR would like to specifically express our appreciation for your support of Defense S&T programs in the FY 17 Department of Defense Appropriations Bill. I commend you for spearheading the effort to reverse many of the reductions, relative to FY 16 enacted levels, in the President's budget for the Defense S&T programs, particularly to 6.1 basic research as well as 6.2 and 6.3 where basic research inventions will become future game changing innovations. The coalition looks forward to working with you to achieve sustained growth in these research accounts based on the recommendations from the National Academies Report [*Rising Above the Gathering Storm*](#).

Thank you for your leadership. Enclosed please find the membership list for CNSR. The coalition looks forward to working with you to strengthen the Defense S&T program.

Sincerely,

John Latini
Chairman, Coalition for National Security Research

MISSION

The Coalition for National Security Research (CNSR) is a broad-based alliance of industry, research universities and institutes, and scientific and professional organizations committed to advocating for a strong Defense Science & Technology (S&T) enterprise, with particular emphasis on basic (6.1) and applied (6.2) defense research. Whether it is developing weapons systems, cybersecurity capabilities, protecting the warfighter, or developing technologies used to heal the wounded, the Defense S&T program serves as the foundation upon which U.S. military technical superiority is built. CNSR's advocacy with Congress and the Administration supports long-term, robust funding for basic and applied research, as well as Department of Defense-funded educational programs that cultivate a new generation of talented engineers and scientists.

CNSR MEMBERS

American Association for the Advancement of Science	Pace University
American Chemical Society	Penn State University
American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering	Princeton University
American Institute of Physics	Purdue University
American Mathematical Society	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
American Physical Society	Semiconductor Industry Association
American Psychological Association	Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics
American Society for Engineering Education	SRI International
American Society of Mechanical Engineers	The State University of New York
Arizona State University	Texas A&M University
Association of American Universities	University of Arizona
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities	University of California System
Battelle	University of California – Irvine
Boston University	University of California – Los Angeles
Brown University	University of California – San Diego
California Institute of Technology	University of Chicago
Carnegie Mellon University	University of Cincinnati
Columbia University	University of Central Florida
Computing Research Association	University of Colorado
Consortium for Ocean Leadership	University of Houston
Cornell University	University of Maryland at College Park
Duke University	University of Michigan
Energetics, Inc.	University of Missouri System
Federation of Materials Societies	University of Nebraska
Florida International University	University of North Carolina System
George Mason University	University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill
Georgia Institute of Technology	University of Pennsylvania
Harvard University	University of Pittsburgh
Indiana University	University of Rochester
The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers	University of South Florida
The Johns Hopkins University	University of Southern California
Louisiana State University	University of Tennessee
Massachusetts Institute of Technology	University of Virginia
Materials Research Society	University of Washington
Michigan State University	University of Wisconsin - Madison
New Mexico State University	Vanderbilt University
Northern Illinois University	Washington State University
Ohio State University	Washington University in St. Louis
Optical Society of America	West Virginia University
Oregon State University	Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution
Oregon Health and Sciences University	Yale University