

ENERGY SCIENCES COALITION

Statement in Support of the Department of Energy Research and Innovation Act, H.R. 589

The member organizations of the Energy Sciences Coalition (ESC) commend the House of Representatives for passing H.R. 589 – the Department of Energy Research and Innovation Act – and urge the Senate to pass this legislation.

H.R. 589 affirms the Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Science’s important contributions to the United States’ energy, economic, and national security. This legislation provides a comprehensive policy reauthorization for the DOE Office of Science, which is the nation’s preeminent federal sponsor of basic physical sciences research, with impacts in disparate fields, including energy, medicine, and defense.

H.R. 589 identifies and advances vital research activities and science infrastructure across the DOE Office of Science programs. Its focus on improving technology transfer at the national labs and continuing operation 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.

Although H.R. 589 includes several positive policy provisions, it notably lacks any authorized funding levels. ESC is committed to working with Congress in a bipartisan fashion to reauthorize strong and sustained funding for the DOE Office of Science, which has not kept pace with inflation since 2010. Sound policy and robust investment in these programs is critical to our nation’s future energy, economic, and national security.

ESC urges the Senate to pass H.R. 589 and for the members of the House and Senate to work in a bipartisan and bicameral fashion to support robust funding for the DOE Office of Science.

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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

Agronomy, Crop and Soil Science Societies
American Association for the Advancement of
Science
American Astronomical Society
American Chemical Society
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
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
Clemson University
Coalition for Academic Scientific Computation
(CASC)
Columbia University
Computing Research Association
Cornell University
Cray Inc.
Crop Science Society of America
Duke University
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Florida State University
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Geological Society of America
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Harvard University
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Iowa State University
Jefferson Science Associates, LLC
Krell Institute
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Materials Research Society
Michigan State University
Michigan Technological University
Northern Illinois University
Northwestern University
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Pennsylvania State University
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Purdue University
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
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Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics
Soil Science Society of America
South Dakota School of Mines
Southeastern Universities Research
Association
Stanford University
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