



External Affairs & Communications

Glenn S. Ruskin

Vice President

July 22, 2019

The Honorable Hailey Stevens
Chair
Subcommittee on Research and Technology
House Science, Space, and Technology Committee
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable James Baird
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Research and Technology
House Science, Space, and Technology Committee
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Stevens and Ranking Member Baird,

On behalf of the American Chemical Society, I would like to extend my deep appreciation to the House Science, Space, and Technology Subcommittee on Research and Technology for holding the hearing "Benign By Design: Innovations in Sustainable Chemistry." Attached please find a statement to be included for the record "Sustainability and the Chemistry Enterprise," that represents the views of ACS on this topic. As you may know, ACS represents over 150,000 chemists and chemical engineers, and chartered by Congress in 1937 to provide advice on science policy.

Making chemistry more sustainable is a core precept of the ACS. ACS recognizes a broad effort to improve the sustainability of chemical sciences is essential. The federal government has an essential role in boosting sustainability, by improving agency coordination and investing resources into research and development. The global competitiveness of the U.S. chemistry enterprise depends on improving its environmental progress. Other countries are embracing sustainability as a key element of their science focus and therefore it is essential the U.S. continue its leadership in meeting this challenge.


Specifically, ACS has several recommendations for policy makers as you look toward crafting policy in this arena:

- Increase federal funding for sustainable chemistry research and development
- Boost agency coordination and identify grand sustainable chemistry challenges
- Promote public-private partnerships
- Implement incentives to early adopters of sustainable manufacturing technology
- Promote hiring of scientists and engineers educated in sustainability principles and practices

The attached statement makes several other recommendations regarding green and sustainable chemistry, as well as broader thoughts about global sustainability. We look forward to working with you in the coming months to examine policy in this arena, and we stand ready to assist the committee and American public in boosting sustainability. In the interim, should you need anything, please do not hesitate to reach out to Carl Maxwell (c_maxwell@acs.org) who leads our efforts on sustainable and green chemistry policy.

Again, thank you for your leadership on this issue and taking our views into consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Glenn Ruskin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'G'.

Glenn S. Ruskin