



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

DANIEL LIPINSKI

January 10, 2017

Thomas M. Connelly, Ph.D.
Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer
American Chemical Society
1155 16th Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20036

Dear Dr. Connelly:

I want to thank you for your work in helping to shield our nation's graduate students from a devastating tax increase in the form of a tax on tuition waivers. At a time when we need the knowledge and innovations created by our bright, young investigators more than ever, the last thing we should be doing is putting up barriers to graduate education.

I'm particularly grateful for the leadership that ACS showed in being one of the earliest organizations to raise awareness of this critical flaw in the tax bill. The letter to House and Senate leadership opposing the tuition waiver tax that I sent, along with a bipartisan group of 41 of my colleagues, would not have attracted such broad support without your help. I thank you for mobilizing your members to speak out on this issue. In the end, we were successful in getting this harmful provision removed from the bill, thanks to the many voices that spoke out in organized opposition.

As a former academic, I am pleased that our collaboration was able to deliver this victory for America's graduate students. Again, thank you for the time and effort that you and ACS provided in support of the scientific community and the graduate student community on this important issue. I look forward to continuing to work together to keep our research enterprise strong.

Sincerely,

Daniel W. Lipinski
Member of Congress