

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Diane Grob Schmidt, Ph.D.
President-Elect, 2014
President, 2015
Immediate Past President, 2016

1155 SIXTEENTH STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036
Phone 202-872-4461
Fax 202-872-6338

May 21, 2015

The Honorable Christopher Coons
United States Senate
127A Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-0805

The Honorable Susan M. Collins
United States Senate
413 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-1904

Dear Senators Coons and Collins:

The American Chemical Society endorses *The Sustainable Chemistry Research and Development Act*.

I commend you for re-introducing this forward-looking bill, which will improve federal coordination and dissemination of green chemistry R&D and facilitate increased federal investment in this area.

Chemistry and chemical products fuel the economy of every industrialized nation and tools and strategies developed by chemists and chemical engineers are instrumental to meeting the dual challenges of environmental protection and economic growth. Sustainable chemistry means continuously improving process safety and resource efficiency leading to reduced cost, waste, and environmental impact. It is proof environmental and economic benefit in chemistry can be optimized simultaneously.

Your legislation will strengthen the government's role as a true partner in promoting sustainable technologies. The legislation appropriately establishes an interagency program to better coordinate, disseminate, and enhance green chemistry R&D at the National Science Foundation, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Energy, and the National Institute of Standards and Technology. This program would support merit-reviewed grants to individual researchers, university-industry R&D partnerships, R&D and technology transfer at federal laboratories, and the education and training of undergraduate and graduate students in sustainable chemistry science and engineering. Such an interagency approach will broaden the focus of sustainable chemistry R&D and make it more attractive to industry sectors.

Again, I commend you for your leadership in this area, and we look forward to working closely with you to build support for this important legislation.

Sincerely,



Diane Grob Schmidt, Ph.D.
2015 President
American Chemical Society