May 15, 2018

The Honorable Ben Ray Luján  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2231 Rayburn HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Randy Hultgren  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2455 Rayburn HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Tom Reed  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2437 Rayburn HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Daniel Lipinski  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2346 Rayburn HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Eric Swalwell  
U.S. House of Representatives  
129 Canon HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Joe Wilson  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1436 Longworth HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Luján, Hultgren, Lipinski, Reed, Swalwell and Wilson:

The undersigned organizations are happy to express our support for H.R. 4700 – the IMPACT for Energy Act – and its companion bill, S. 2257.

We welcome your bipartisan and bicameral effort to establish the IMPACT for Energy Foundation, a nonprofit foundation that will channel private-sector investments to help support the creation, development and commercialization of next generation energy technologies at the Department of Energy (DOE). We also appreciate your leadership in introducing this legislation, which would help capitalize on the federal government’s investments in clean energy research and development by attracting private sector investment and partnership, as well as philanthropic donations.

Modeled after the successful Foundation for the National Institutes of Health (FNIH), the IMPACT for Energy Foundation would be a new source of supplemental funding for DOE. Since its creation in 1996, FNIH has raised more than $1 billion dollars for the agency. Additionally, the Veterans Administration, Food and Drug Administration, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Department of Defense also receive support from foundations that were established by Congress. We agree that it is time for DOE to have a foundation of its own.

Given today’s complex energy challenges, viable solutions often require multiple partners in both the public and private sectors. We appreciate this bill’s aim to enhance collaboration and partnerships between researchers from the federal government, universities, industry and nonprofit organizations.

No longer the undisputed world leader in innovation, your IMPACT for Energy Act comes at a time when the U.S. must renew its commitment to global leadership in science and technology. By providing a new potential funding stream for research and improving relationships between the public and private sectors, your legislation will help accelerate innovation, strengthen the U.S. economy and bolster our global competitiveness.

Thank you for your leadership and dedication to improving America’s scientific enterprise.

Sincerely,

American Chemical Society  
American Physical Society  
American Society for Engineering Education  
Association of American Universities  
Association of Public & Land-grant Universities  
Michigan Technological University  
The State University of New York System

The University of South Carolina  
Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics  
Stony Brook University  
University of California System  
University of Delaware  
University of New Mexico