

American Chemical Society

DR. THOMAS CONNELLY, JR. Executive Director & CEO

June 30, 2016

The Honorable John Thune 511 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Bill Nelson 716 Senate Hart Office Building Washington, DC 20510 1155 SIXTEENTH STREET N.W. WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036 Phone (202) 872-4534

The Honorable Corey Gardner 354 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Gary Peters 724 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Thune, Ranking Member Nelson and Senators Gardner and Peters:

On behalf of the American Chemical Society, thank you for your leadership in introducing S. 3084, the American Innovation and Competiveness Act. ACS endorses this comprehensive legislation to ensure our nation remains the world's economic and technological leader. This important proposal renews our focus on basic research in the physical sciences and STEM education.

S.3084 will establish a blueprint to strengthen the pillars of American innovation and competitiveness: basic research, STEM education and a business environment to drive innovation. The legislation will ensure generations of American innovators will have the resources to produce the discoveries which boost our economic prosperity.

In particular, ACS is highly supportive of the sustainable chemistry section offered by Senator Tom Udall to improve federal coordination and investment in green and sustainable chemistry research and development. This section is based on legislation (S. 1447) introduced earlier this year by Senator's Susan Collins and Chris Coons. Sustainable chemical science research seeks to develop products and processes that reduce waste, use less energy and water, and are designed to protect human health and the environment.

The Congress must work together to rise to the enormous challenges facing our country in the 21st Century and enact this comprehensive legislation that will enable our country to remain the world's technological and economic leader. Our Society stands ready to work with you to move this legislation forward. If you have any questions, please contact Anthony Pitagno Director of Advocacy at 202-872-4394 or a pitagno@acs.org

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Thomas M. Connelly, Jr.