



American Chemical Society

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The Honorable J. Phillip Gingrey
U.S. House of Representatives
119 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-1011

Dear Representative Gingrey:

On behalf of the American Chemical Society, I want to convey our support for *The Green Chemistry Research and Development Act of 2007* (HR 2850). We commend you for introducing this forward-looking bill, which would improve federal coordination and dissemination of green chemistry R&D and facilitate increased federal investment in this area.

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

Your legislation would strengthen the government's role as a true partner in promoting greener technologies. The legislation appropriately establishes an interagency program to better coordinate, disseminate, and enhance green chemistry R&D at NSF, EPA, 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 green chemistry science and engineering. Such an interagency approach will broaden the focus of green chemistry R&D and make it more attractive to industry sectors.

Green chemistry advances have eliminated waste, improved safety, and saved industry money. From redesigned pharmaceutical syntheses that reduce waste, to new catalysts that improve energy efficiency, green chemistry techniques lead to technology that can be environmentally and economically viable. However, substantial scientific and engineering challenges remain, and more long-term R&D in this area is badly needed.

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,

Catherine T. Hunt, Ph.D.
President

ACS Vision: Improving People's Lives through the Transforming Power of Chemistry

The American Chemical Society — with more than 160,000 members — is the largest scientific society in the world. ACS is a nonprofit membership organization chartered by the U.S. Congress and a global leader in providing access to chemistry-related research.

