



May 15, 2009

The Honorable Bart Gordon
Chairman
Science & Technology Committee
United States House of Representatives
2320 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Gordon:

On behalf of the Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA), I am writing to commend you for the introduction of H.R. 2020, the “Networking and Information Technology Research & Development Act of 2009,” and to offer our strong support for this timely legislation. We also want to thank you for the swift movement of this bill under your stewardship, both through your committee and through the U.S. House of Representatives.

As you know, this measure is necessary to help advance and update the original goals of the High Performance Computing Act and will help ensure that NITRD and OSTP work together to ensure that a strategic plan for the organization is created, regularly updated and effectively implemented. Our association has long advocated for an increased focus on long-term, high-risk, basic research in the areas of networking and computing, thus we appreciate your leadership and commitment to improving the federal research efforts in these areas. Further, we are committed to working with you and the NITRD Coordination office to ensure that industry is a partner in these federal efforts both in identifying the research needs and also through partnering wherever possible.

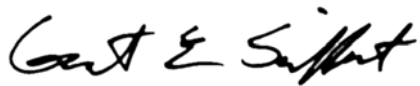
TIA’s members were also pleased to see the inclusion of language in the bill which directs the strategic plan to include near and long term measures to strengthen all levels of networking and information technology education and training programs. Emphasis on these efforts is critical to ensure that the U.S. has the workforce to remain competitive in these areas into the future.

As you know, TIA represents the global information and communications technology (ICT) industry through standards development, advocacy, tradeshow, business opportunities, market intelligence and world-wide environmental regulatory analysis. For over 80 years, TIA has enhanced the business environment for broadband, mobile wireless, information technology, networks, cable, satellite and unified communications. Members’ products and services empower communications in every industry and market, including healthcare, education, security, public safety, transportation, government, the military, the environment and entertainment.

Our industry has long appreciated your leadership to improve America’s competitiveness you’re your focus on increasing coordinated federal research efforts so as to best leverage the federal investment in

basic science and the introduction and passage of this legislation continues that legacy. TIA looks forward to working with you on these critical issues. .

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Grant Seiffert". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Grant Seiffert
President