



ADVANCING GLOBAL COMMUNICATIONS

April 25, 2006

The Honorable J. Dennis Hastert  
Speaker of the House  
H-228 U.S. Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jim Nussle  
Chairman, House Budget Committee  
309 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable John Boehner  
Majority Leader  
H-107 U. S. Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jerry Lewis  
Chairman, House Appropriations Committee  
H-218 U.S. Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressmen:

On behalf of the Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA)<sup>1</sup> and our 600 member companies, I am writing to urge you to fully fund the President's American Competitiveness Initiative (ACI). The Budget Resolution approved by the House Budget Committee falls \$300 million short of funding the President's 2007 request for General Science, Space and Technology (Budget Function 250).

This is a critical time for our industry and our nation in terms of competitiveness, and now is the time to invest in our long-term technological and commercial leadership. Basic research in the physical sciences and engineering will provide the foundation that will allow the United States to continue to be at the forefront globally of innovation and economic prosperity.

We encourage you to underscore the importance of the ACI and federal funding for basic research when the House Budget Resolution comes to the floor, and we ask that you support full funding for the President's request for Budget Function 250 at \$26.25 billion.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Matthew J. Flanigan  
President

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<sup>1</sup> TIA is the leading trade association for the information and communications technology (ICT) industry. As owner and producer of GLOBALCOMM™, TIA serves ICT suppliers serving global service provider and enterprise customers through its leadership in standards development, domestic and international policy advocacy, and facilitating member business opportunities. TIA represents the communications sector of the [Electronic Industries Alliance](#) (EIA).

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