



The Honorable Lamar Alexander
Chairman
Senate Subcommittee on Energy and Water
455 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
Ranking Member
Senate Subcommittee on Energy and Water
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

October 23, 2019

Dear Chairman Alexander and Ranking Member Feinstein,

On behalf of the National Photonics Initiative (NPI), I would like to thank you for including language regarding quantum information science and technology and the National Quantum Initiative (NQI) (H.R.6227 in the 115th) in the Senate FY2020 Energy and Water Appropriations bills. The NPI is a broad-based collaborative alliance among industry, academia, and government which is the leading advocate for quantum science and technology, and which includes nearly 50 industry and university stakeholders.

We support the approach taken in the Senate version of the bill specific to directing funding to both the research and centers called for in the NQI, and we support those numbers being as close to the authorization levels as possible. Quantum Information Science is critical to our nation's economy and national security and will help develop current quantum research into real world applications. These scientific and technological breakthroughs will stimulate economic growth and help U.S. researchers and developers keep pace with accelerating global competitiveness. Additionally, the funding provided in this bill will help bridge significant workforce gaps that currently exist between the leading quantum researchers and industrial product developers. What's more, it will catalyze a new sector in the science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) workforce.

Quantum research is crucial to our nation's economy and national security. It will ensure that existing and ongoing research can be developed into real world applications, creating scientific and technological breakthroughs that will stimulate economic growth and keep pace with accelerating global competitiveness. The report language recommended by the Senate subcommittee will begin to bring to fruition the Congressional intent of the National Quantum Initiative.

The NPI stands ready to serve as a resource for the Subcommittees on this matter and I thank you again for including quantum information science and the National Quantum Initiative in the Senate FY2020 Energy and Water Development Appropriations bills.

Sincerely,

Ed White

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ed White". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Chairman, NPI Steering Committee



CC: Chairman Richard Shelby, Senate Appropriations Committee
Ranking Member Patrick Leahy, Senate Appropriations Committee