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January 17, 2009

The Hon. Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House of Representatives
U.S. House of Representatives
H-232 U.S. Capitol Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi:

ASTRA, The Alliance for Science & Technology Research in America, commends you and the House Leadership for proposing bold and achievable funding levels for key science agencies —and by extension for America's beleaguered scientific, engineering and technology communities in the *American Economic Recovery and Investment Act of 2009*.

Along with implementation of soon-to-be President Obama's *Science & Innovation Agenda*, we fervently hope that such actions can help redress a generation of underfunding and other policy missteps that have imperiled the nation's innovation capacity, its ability to compete in world markets, development of an adequately trained workforce, our standard of living, quality of life, and our national security.

We truly believe that your initiative can help spark a new "Science Renaissance" in America. We applaud your leadership in the drafting of this legislation. We have asked thousands of individuals and organizations to similarly support this important first step and we will do our best to demonstrate our support in future actions.

ASTRA represents 123 science and technology companies, universities and colleges, nonprofit scientific and professional associations and societies and their underlying memberships, researchers, students and others. ASTRA also counts approximately 33,000 "Friends" ranging across a wide number of scientific and engineering disciplines.

Sincerely,

Wayne C. Johnson
For the ASTRA Board of Directors



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* Denotes "Friend of ASTRA"

