

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 16, 2015 CONTACT: Barry Toiv 202-408-7500, <u>barry.toiv@aau.edu</u>

## CLOSE THE INNOVATION DEFICIT COALITION COMMENDS INTRODUCTION OF AMERICAN INNOVATION ACT

## Legislation Would Help Close Innovation Deficit with Significant Increases in Federal Funding of Scientific Research at Key Agencies

The <u>Close the Innovation Deficit campaign</u>, a coalition of more than 120 national business, higher education, scientific, patient, and other organizations, commends Senator Richard Durbin (D-IL) for introducing the American Innovation Act today. This legislation would take major steps toward closing the nation's innovation deficit by significantly increasing investments in key federal science agencies and programs.

These agencies and programs – the National Science Foundation, the Department of Energy Office of Science, the Department of Defense's science and technology programs, the National Institute of Standards and Technology's scientific and technical research and services, and NASA's science directorate – conduct vital research that is essential to the nation's long-term economic growth and national security, as well as the quality of life of all Americans.

Unfortunately, the nation's lagging support of research, combined with rapid increases in such investments by our international competitors, is creating an innovation deficit that threatens U.S. global economic leadership. Enactment and implementation of the American Innovation Act, as well as S. 289, the American Cures Act, a bill Senator Durbin has also introduced that would provide for similar investments in the National Institutes of Health and other health agencies, would reverse this trend and pave the way to closing the innovation deficit.

Academy of Radiology Research Aerospace Industries Association Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine Alzheimer's Association American Anthropological Association American Association for Dental Research American Association for the Advancement of Science American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases American Association for Thoracic Surgery American Association of Anatomists American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy American Brain Coalition American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network American Chemical Society

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American College of Gastroenterology American Council on Education American Educational Research Association American Gastroenterological Association American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering American Institute of Biological Sciences American Mathematical Society American Pancreatic Association American Physical Society American Physiological Society **American Political Science Association** American Sociological Association American Society for Bioethics and Humanities American Society for Clinical Pharmacology & Therapeutics American Society for Engineering Education American Society for Microbiology American Society for Pharmacology & Experimental Therapeutics American Society of Agronomy American Society of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy American Society of Mechanical Engineers American Society of Plant Biologists American Statistical Association American Surgical Association Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization Association for Academic Surgery Association for Surgical Education Association for Women in Mathematics Association of Academic Physiatrists Association of American Geographers Association of American Medical Colleges Association of American Universities Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges Association of Independent Research Institutes Association of Population Centers Association of Public and Land-grant Universities Association of Research Libraries Association of Universities for Research in Astronomy **Bay Area Council Biophysical Society** Brain Injury Association of America **Business-Higher Education Forum** Coalition for Imaging and Bioengineering Research Coalition for the Life Sciences **Coalition for National Science Funding Coalition for National Security Research Computing Research Association Consortium for Ocean Leadership** Consortium of Social Science Associations

Cooley's Anemia Foundation **Council of Graduate Schools Council on Competitiveness** Council on Undergraduate Research **Crop Science Society of America Deadliest Cancers Coalition** Debbie's Dream Foundation: Curing Stomach Cancer **Digestive Disease National Coalition Ecological Society of America Energy Sciences Coalition Entomological Society of America Esophageal Cancer Action Network Everylife Foundation for Rare Diseases** Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology Federation of Associations in Behavioral & Brain Sciences **Hepatitis B Foundation** Hepatitis Foundation International Human Factors and Ergonomics Society **IEEE-USA** Industrial Research Institute Infectious Diseases Society of America Lung Cancer Alliance Materials Research Society Mathematical Association of America Mesothelioma Applied Research Foundation National Alliance for Eye and Vision Research National Association of Marine Laboratories National Brain Tumor Society National Certification Council for Activity Professionals National Ground Water Association National Ovarian Cancer Coalition National Pancreas Foundation Natural Science Collections Alliance Older Women's League **Ovarian Cancer National Alliance** Pancreatic Cancer Action Network Pink Concussions, Inc. Population Association of America Research!America Semiconductor Industry Association Semiconductor Research Corporation Silicon Valley Leadership Group Society for Academic Emergency Medicine Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics Society for Industrial and Organizational Psychology Society for Neuroscience Society of General Internal Medicine Society of Surgical Chairs

Society of University Urologists Society of Urology Chairpersons and Program Directors Soil Science Society of America Southeastern Universities Research Association Stand With Science Task Force on American Innovation The Geological Society of America The Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology The Endocrine Society The Optical Society The Optical Society The Science Coalition Tuberous Sclerosis Alliance United for Medical Research University Corporation for Atmospheric Research

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