

improve the safety and water efficiency of our plumbing systems in buildings, hospitals, and homes. NIST is a critical agency that supports U.S. competitiveness through precision measurement research, partnership with industry, facilitating and developing standards, and support for U.S. manufacturing. As Congress considers a significant legislation to support the Federal research enterprise and bolster U.S. competitiveness, it must not overlook this essential agency and we urge conferees to support the inclusion of the NIST Future Act in a final bill.

- **Include robust authorization levels for federal research agencies to increase competitiveness** Both COMPETES and USICA propose robust authorization levels for the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the Department of Energy Office of Science, as well as other federal research agencies. These reauthorizations are important and recognize that sustained investments are needed to ensure the continuing U.S. preeminence in innovation and research and development. We urge Congress to continue this support by providing robust appropriations for the agencies and programs authorized in the legislation.
- **Adopt key House provisions to support workforce development programs that contribute to our nation's competitiveness** H.R.4521 includes a number of provisions of particular importance to community colleges, including a reauthorization and improvements to the key Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training Grants program (H.R. 4521, Sec. 101301- 101302). The legislation also contains provisions to strengthen and modernize the nation's apprenticeship system, an initiative that will help address the nation's needs for skilled technical employees. Finally, H.R. 4521 also modifies and reauthorizes the National Science Foundation's Advanced Technological Education program (H.R. 4521, Sec. 10304 STEM Education). We urge conferees to accept these provisions in the final bill.

The HPBC is comprised of more than 200 manufacturers, trade associations, and other stakeholders who support policies and legislation that advance the next generation of buildings. Our member associations and organizations employ thousands of workers.

We look forward to continuing to work with you to advance the broader goal of enhancing our economic competitiveness and security as the conference process moves forward. Thank you for your consideration. If you have questions, please contact me at gmaser@ICCSafe.org.

Sincerely,



Gabe Maser
Chair, High Performance Building Coalition

cc: Chairwoman Eddie Bernice Johnson
Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren
Congresswoman Suzanne Bonamici
Congressman Ami Bera
Congresswoman Haley Stevens
Congressman Jamaal Bowman
Congressman Bill Foster
Ranking Member Frank Lucas
Congressman Randy Weber
Congressman Brian Babin
Congressman Michael Waltz
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Senator Jon Tester
Senator Todd Young
Senator Jerry Moran