

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

April 7, 2005

***Want to Ensure Economic Vitality & National Security?***  
***Invest in Science & Technology***

Dear Colleague:

We invite you to join us in signing the attached letter requesting that the Science, State, Justice and Commerce subcommittee make the National Science Foundation (NSF) a priority as it deliberates the FY 2006 budget.

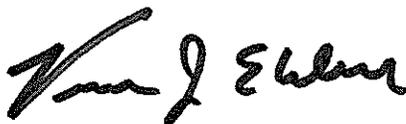
Advances in science and technology underpin our ability to meet many of the challenges that America faces today, including securing the homeland, preventing terrorism, fostering innovation and economic development, and educating our children to be able to compete in the knowledge-based, global economy. As a nation, we must continue to invest in our scientific enterprise.

Supporting the National Science Foundation (NSF) is key to maintaining our pre-eminence in science and technology. NSF investments are aimed at the frontiers of science and engineering, where advances in fundamental knowledge drive innovation, progress, and productivity. NSF supports the education of scientists and engineers as well as the workforce of tomorrow—a workforce in which all workers, from office assistants to rocket scientists, will require basic math and science skills.

We believe that the National Science Foundation (NSF) should be funded at \$6.1 billion in the FY 2006 budget, and hope that you will join us in asking for support. This amount restores the cuts that NSF endured in the FY 2005 omnibus and applies an increase consistent with previous NSF annual budgets.

To sign the letter, or for answers to any questions, please contact Julia Warner in Rep. Ehlers' office (x53831) or Valerie Thomas in Rep. Holt's office (x55801). Deadline for signatures is April 22, 2005.

Sincerely,



VERNON J. EHLERS  
Member of Congress



RUSH HOLT  
Member of Congress