



AN ANALYSIS OF THE INNOVATION AGENDA 1.0

There were **22 planks** included in the Innovation Agenda unveiled early in the 110th Congress, in 2007. Of these 22 planks, **21 have been translated into legislative provisions that have been signed into law.** Below is a list of those provisions, with the laws noted in parentheses.

ENACTED INTO LAW

CREATING A NEW GENERATION OF INNOVATORS

- Invests in making college more affordable for all students by providing the largest college aid expansion since the GI Bill in 1944 and cutting college loan rates in half. (College Cost Reduction and Access Act, P.L. 110-84)
- Authorizes funding for 25,000 new STEM teachers through summer training institutes, graduate education assistance, and scholarships such as NSF's Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship Program. (America COMPETES Act, P.L. 110-69)
- Promotes more highly qualified teachers in the classroom, in the fields of mathematics, science, engineering, technology, and critical foreign languages through authorizing grant programs that provide baccalaureate degrees in these areas with concurrent teacher certification. Creates competitive grants to establish programs focused on math for elementary and secondary schools including training for teachers with a focus on serving high-needs schools. (America COMPETES Act, P.L. 110-69)
- Enhances the ability of states to build more competitive workforces, through P-16+ Councils and other tools, to coordinate education and workforce goals with industry and community leaders, and to identify the challenges in recruiting and retaining students in innovative fields. (America COMPETES Act, P.L. 110-69)

A SUSTAINED COMMITMENT TO RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

- Authorizes increased investments in basic research and development and puts America on a path to double funding for the National Science Foundation (NSF), the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), and the Department of Energy's Office of Science. (America COMPETES Act, P.L. 110-69; American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, P.L. 111-5; America COMPETES Act Reauthorization, P.L. 111-358)
- Authorizes grants for outstanding researchers in the early stages of their careers at both NSF and the Department of Energy. Also coordinates and prioritizes research infrastructure needs at universities and national labs, strengthens planning and coordination for interagency research and development in information technology including deployment of high performance computers for use by the research

community, and establishes a Presidential innovation award. (America COMPETES Act, P.L. 110-69)

- Provides for patent reform, which is designed to speed up the patent process and reduce the patent backlog. (America Invents Act, P.L. 112-29)
- Extends and improves the critically important R&D tax credit, which fosters domestic R&D investment, spurs innovation, and creates more high-quality American jobs. (Several tax extender bills in 110th through 113th Congresses; and Tax Extenders, P.L. 114-113 – which makes R&D tax credit permanent (unpaid for), and makes certain improvements in the tax credit)

PROMOTING ENERGY INDEPENDENCE

- Strengthens our national commitment to energy research and innovation by creating a new Advanced Research Projects Agency for Energy (ARPA-E). ARPA-E provides resources for high-reward, high-impact clean energy research and technology development, and attracts investment for the next generation of revolutionary energy technologies. (America COMPETES Act, P.L. 110-69)
- Reduces our reliance on foreign oil, including by: 1) increasing the fuel efficiency of cars and trucks – the first increase in a generation and saving American families \$700 to \$1,000 per year at the pump; 2) making an historic commitment to American-grown biofuels; and 3) requiring for the first time that 15 percent of our electricity come from renewable sources by 2020. (Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007, P.L. 100-140)
- Promotes renewable energy by extending and improving clean energy tax incentives for various renewable energy sources, including solar, wind, geothermal and biomass. (Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007, P.L. 100-140; American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, P.L. 111-5; and FY 2016 Omnibus Appropriations, P.L. 114-113)
- Enhances technology-driven energy efficiency and also saves consumers hundreds of billions of dollars through landmark new energy efficiency standards for a wide range of appliances, lighting, and buildings. Also helps state and local governments make investments in innovative best practices to achieve greater energy efficiency. (Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007, P.L. 100-140; American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, P.L. 111-5)

AFFORDABLE BROADBAND ACCESS FOR ALL AMERICANS

- Ensures greater accountability for broadband services by requiring the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to update the methodology it uses to measure broadband deployment and requires better data collection from providers, an international comparison, and consumer surveys to report on broadband speeds and prices. (Broadband Data Improvement Act, P.L. 110-385)
- Authorizes grants to help local community leaders and stakeholders identify and aggregate demand for broadband in unserved and underserved communities. (Broadband Data Improvement Act, P.L. 110-385)
- Requires the development of broadband access maps in partnership with state governments and authorizes grants to state entities for such efforts. The broadband access maps are designed to be used to better target federal resources to deploy broadband in our rural and underserved communities. (Broadband Data Improvement Act, P.L. 110-385)

- Expands access to broadband by providing \$7.2 billion for extending broadband services to rural and underserved communities across the country, so that rural and inner-city businesses can compete with any company in the world. Also expands the Rural Utilities Service broadband loan program, establishes a National Center for Rural Telecommunications Assessment, and requires the FCC and Department of Agriculture to develop a Comprehensive Rural Broadband Strategy. (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, P.L. 111-5; Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008, P.L. 110-246)
- Promotes the development and rapid deployment of new wireless broadband technologies and the efficient and intensive use of the electromagnetic spectrum in order to foster economic growth and innovation. (Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act, P.L. 112-96)

SMALL BUSINESS TOOLS FOR INNOVATION

- Spurs new manufacturing processes and technologies by putting America on a path to double funding for the Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP), which leverages federal, state, and private dollars to help small and medium-sized manufacturers promote innovation. (America COMPETES Act, P.L. 110-69)
- Creates a Technology Innovation Program to support high-risk, high-reward, pre-competitive technology development, with high potential for public benefit. (America COMPETES Act, P.L. 110-69)
- Modernizes the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) program by streamlining paperwork for businesses, ensuring companies receive grants in a timely manner, reducing the lag time between the award phases, providing additional funding for the commercialization phase, and allowing venture capital invested businesses to participate in the program. (National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012, P.L. 112-81)
- Improves access to capital for small businesses by increasing the loan guarantees provided to small businesses and eliminating certain fees in the 7(a) small business loan program and making key improvements in the Small Business Investment Company (SBIC) program in order to ensure that American small businesses have the resources and technical assistance they need to successfully innovate. (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, P.L. 111-5)

NOT ENACTED INTO LAW

- Ensures, as part of bipartisan and comprehensive immigration reform, that the best and brightest in the United States and around the world are able to contribute to innovation here.

Prepared by Offices of Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi and Rep. Anna Eshoo, Ranking Democrat on Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Communications and Technology