The Federal R&D enterprise is spread across more than a dozen Federal agencies. The Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) is charged with coordinating across all of those agencies and advising the President on cross-cutting S&T issues. Congress has tasked OSTP with developing cross-agency strategies on specific topics, such as artificial intelligence and climate change science. However, there is no existing requirement or practice of developing a comprehensive outlook and strategy for Federal investments in science and technology. Given the importance of the U.S. R&D enterprise, it is critical that we approach it strategically and holistically. By developing a cross-cutting strategy for Science & Technology, as is already done for national defense, homeland security, and energy, the U.S. can address emerging challenges and set priorities.

H.R. 3858 directs OSTP to complete a comprehensive quadrennial review that will provide an overview of the nation’s innovation landscape and provide policymakers, industry, researchers, and other stakeholders with unbiased data and analysis to identify the future needs, barriers, and opportunities for U.S. science and technology.

It also directs OSTP to take this analysis and develop a national science and technology strategy to provide recommendations for maintaining global leadership in science and technology.

- This bipartisan bill passed favorably out of Committee in July 2021
- It is critical for policymakers, industry, researchers, and other stakeholders to have unbiased data and analysis to identify the future needs, barriers, and opportunities for U.S. science and technology.
- We must develop a national science and technology strategy to maintaining global leadership in science and technology.