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DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

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July 6, 2016

Honorable Lamar Smith Chairman House Committee on Science, Space & Technology 2409 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Honorable Eddie Bernice Johnson Ranking Member House Committee on Science, Space & Technology 2468 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Smith and Ranking Member Johnson:

I am writing to express strong support for the Solar Fuels Innovation Act. I commend your efforts for insuring our nation's competitiveness and leadership in this critical area of research and I urge that you and the Committee give the bill favorable consideration.

Identifying a renewable, carbon-free, source of energy that can be produced at the scale required to meet the demand of entire nations is a daunting task. Nevertheless, basic research in solar fuels research by academic and national labs throughout our country has shown that the realization of this goal is certainly achievable. The hard-driving collaborative and milestone based approach envisioned by the bill, combined with adequate funding, is a proven path to helping our nation maintain its edge in scientific discovery and innovation.

The Solar Fuels Innovation Act offers the necessary investment in infrastructure and training for our nation's future generation of energy researchers that is critically important for continued progress and success.

If I can ever be of service to further the goals of your committee in this or other important research areas, I hope you will not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Thomas J. Meyer

Arey Distinguished Professor of Chemistry

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