June 26, 2018

The Honorable Lamar Smith  
Chairman  
Science, Space, and Technology Committee  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington DC 20515

The Honorable John Thune  
Chairman  
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee  
U.S. Senate  
Washington DC 20510

The Honorable Eddie Bernice Johnson  
Ranking Member  
Science, Space, and Technology Committee  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington DC 20515

The Honorable Bill Nelson  
Ranking Member  
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee  
U.S. Senate  
Washington DC 20510

Dear Chairmen Smith and Thune and Ranking Members Johnson and Nelson:

The Quantum Industry Coalition is a group of quantum companies dedicated to US leadership in the quantum fields. Its members include Bra-Ket Science, D-Wave Systems, EeroQ, Entanglement Institute, Founders Fund, Intel, Lockheed Martin, Nanotronics, QxBranch, Rigetti Computing, Strangeworks, Turing Inc., and Zapata Computing. We write to thank you and the Committee for your attention to the important issue of US quantum leadership, and for your introduction of the National Quantum Initiative Act.

The Quantum Industry Coalition strongly supports the National Quantum Initiative Act because we believe it takes important steps toward establishing US quantum leadership. The bill takes a coordinated, government-wide approach to quantum R&D, which will help reduce gaps and overlaps. It promotes workforce development, which is key to the US quantum industry’s growth. It engages with industry, which will help accelerate R&D, create jobs, and develop new capabilities for US government use. And it avoids common pitfalls like mandating specific technologies or picking winners and losers in the marketplace.

We look forward to working with you, as the bill advances, to ensure that it incorporates lessons from previous national R&D initiatives. In particular, we believe it is important that R&D activities be oriented toward usable results, so that US industry - not foreign industry - is able to commercialize and apply the research that US taxpayers fund. Similarly, we would like to explore ways in which industry can engage further with the Departments and Agencies participating in the National Quantum Initiative through public-private partnerships and other mechanisms. Finally, we are eager to expand on the workforce development efforts already outlined within the bill.

Again, thank you for your leadership on this important issue. We look forward to swift passage of the National Quantum Initiative Act.

Sincerely,

Paul Stimers  
Executive Director  
Quantum Industry Coalition