NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS)

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) promotes U.S. innovation and industrial competitiveness by advancing measurement science, standards, and technology in ways that enhance economic security and improve our quality of life.

The Committee recommendation includes $781,100,000 for NIST for fiscal year 2010.

SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL RESEARCH AND SERVICES

Fiscal Year 2009 enacted	$472,000,000
Fiscal Year 2010 request	534,600,000
Recommended in the bill	510,000,000
Bill compared with:	
Fiscal Year 2009 enacted	+38,000,000
Fiscal Year 2010 request	−24,600,000

To carry out its mission, NIST has an intramural research program made up of laboratories and technical programs and national research facilities. The laboratories and technical programs develop and disseminate measurement techniques, reference data and materials, test methods, standards, and other infrastructural technologies and services required by U.S. industry. National research facilities include the NIST Center for Neutron Research and the Center for Nanoscale Science and Technology. NIST also manages the Baldridge National Quality Program, which promotes U.S. competitiveness in business, health care, education, and non-profit organizations through performance excellence criteria and other information transfer, and management of the Malcolm Baldridge National Quality Award.

The Committee recommendation includes $510,000,000 for NIST's scientific and technical core programs, which is $38,000,000 above fiscal year 2009, an increase of 8 percent. Within available resources, the Committee supports the full funding of the comprehensive national cyber security increase.

The Committee approves NIST's new budget structure consolidating all the functions of its laboratory research program under one budget activity but the Committee will regard any deviation from amounts specified in spend plans or reports for particular labs and technical programs, or the use of deobligated funds, to be subject to reprogramming procedures.

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

Fiscal Year 2009 enacted	$175,000,000
Fiscal Year 2010 request	194,600,000
Recommended in the bill	194,600,000
Bill compared with:	
Fiscal Year 2009 enacted	+19,600,000
Fiscal Year 2010 request	.....

This appropriation provides funding for the Manufacturing Extension Partnerships (MEP) program and the Technology Innovation Program (TIP). The Committee recommendation includes $194,600,000, which is $19,000,000 above the fiscal year 2009 enacted level and the same as the request. Of this amount, $124,700,000 is provided for the Manufacturing Extension Partnerships (MEP) and $69,900,000 is provided for the Technology Inno-

vation Program (TIP). In the current economic climate, these programs are critically important to ensure the competitiveness of U.S. businesses.

MEP consists of a network of centers that provide business support and technical assistance services, and helps improve the productivity and competitiveness of small manufacturers. The centers are funded from matching Federal and State or local resources and fees charged for services. MEP leverages private resources in the creation and retention of jobs, thereby increasing economic output as well as Federal revenues.

TIP was established in section 3012 of the Competes Act and speeds the development of high-risk, transformative research targeted to address key societal challenges. Funding is provided to small and medium-sized businesses, and institutions of higher education or other organizations, such as national laboratories and nonprofit research institutions to support, promote, and accelerate innovation in the U.S.

CONSTRUCTION OF RESEARCH FACILITIES

Fiscal Year 2009 enacted	$172,000,000
Fiscal Year 2010 request	116,900,000
Recommended in the bill	76,500,000
Bill compared with:	
Fiscal Year 2009 enacted	−95,500,000
Fiscal Year 2010 request	−40,400,000

This appropriation supports the construction of new facilities and the renovation and maintenance of NIST's current buildings and laboratories to comply with scientific and engineering requirements and to keep pace with Federal, State, and local health and safety regulations. The Committee recommendation includes $76,500,000, of which $8,000,000 shall be available for the final year of the Neutron Center Expansion and Reliability Improvements, and $20,000,000 shall be available for a competitive grant competition. The Committee does not provide funding to begin two new multi-year construction projects, given budget constraints.

Competitive construction grants.—Within the appropriation, the Committee provides $20,000,000 for competitive construction grants for research science buildings in fiscal year 2010. The Committee notes that in just the first year of the program, the fiscal year 2008 call for proposals yielded 93 requests, of which only three were funded within available appropriations. The Committee expects the Administration to include funding for this program in future requests as these research science buildings leverage additional public and private funding, provide jobs, and improve science research in the Nation.

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

The mission of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is to understand and predict changes in Earth's environment and conserve and manage coastal and marine resources to meet our Nation's economic, social and environmental needs. NOAA supplies information on the oceans and atmosphere, provides stewardship of our coastal and marine environment, and leads scientific research in such fields as ecosystems, climate, global climate change, weather and oceanography.