

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 1, 2015

The Honorable Ashton Carter
Secretary of Defense
1300 Defense Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20301

Dear Secretary Carter,

We write to extend our strong support for an application for the Integrated Photonics Institute for Manufacturing Innovation, which was submitted by the Research Foundation for the State University of New York on behalf of academic and industrial partners from around the country.

As you know, the United States has been the world leader in deploying photonics research to power cutting edge technologies, but global competition has put this leadership position at risk. New opportunities in this field offer even greater potential to strengthen our security and enhance our quality of life while driving economic growth, job creation and U.S. competitiveness. Our districts are geographically distinct but we are united in our belief that the New York-led proposal provides the Department the best chance to make a transformational investment to create an end-to-end integrated photonics ecosystem.

World-class research universities, high-tech manufacturers, and talented workforces in the Northeast and the West have come together in this application to leverage the very best of our nation's technical capabilities in promoting photonics advanced research, development and commercialization. With the strong support of New York, California, Massachusetts, and industry partners, the application has secured funding commitments that will yield a more than a five-to-one cost share ratio with the federal investment, representing a substantial funding opportunity for the institute.

Your service to our country and commitment to our nation's industrial policy are deeply appreciated. We offer our strong support for the New York-led application and thank you for your full and fair consideration.

Sincerely,


Louise M. Slaughter (NY-25)


Tom Reed (NY-23)


Lois Capps (CA-24)



Paul Tonko (NY-20)



Michael Honda (CA-17)



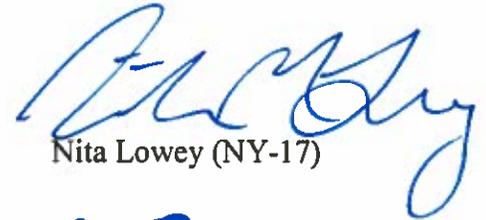
Glenn 'GT' Thompson (PA-5)



Richard Hanna (NY-22)



Jim McGovern (MA-2)



Nita Lowey (NY-17)



Ruben Gallego (AZ-7)



Elijah Cummings (MD-7)



Ami Bera (CA-7)



John Garamendi (CA-3)



Charles Rangel (NY-13)



Chaka Fattah (PA-2)



Steve Israel (NY-3)



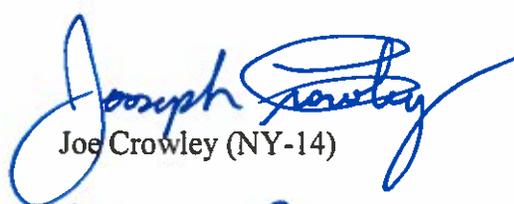
Chris Gibson (NY-19)



Pete Sessions (TX-32)



John Katko (NY-24)



Joe Crowley (NY-14)



Eliot Engel (NY-16)



Gregory Meeks (NY-5)



Kathleen Rice (NY-4)



Chris Collins (NY-27)



Yvette Clarke (NY-9)



Carolyn Maloney (NY-12)



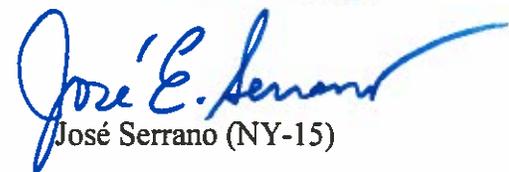
Sean Patrick Maloney (NY-18)



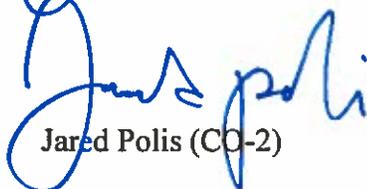
Grace Meng (NY-6)



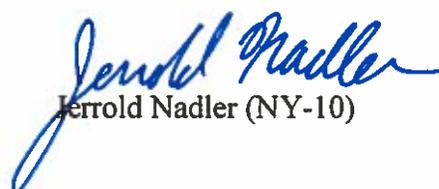
Elise Stefanik (NY-21)



José Serrano (NY-15)



Jared Polis (CO-2)



Jerrold Nadler (NY-10)



Doris O. Matsui (CA-06)



Lee Zeldin (NY-1)



Martha McSally (AZ-2)