

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

May 13, 2004

The Honorable Dennis Hastert
Speaker
House of Representatives

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Minority Leader
House of Representatives

The Honorable William M. Thomas
Chairman
Committee on Ways and Means

The Honorable Charles Rangel
Ranking Member
Committee on Ways and Means

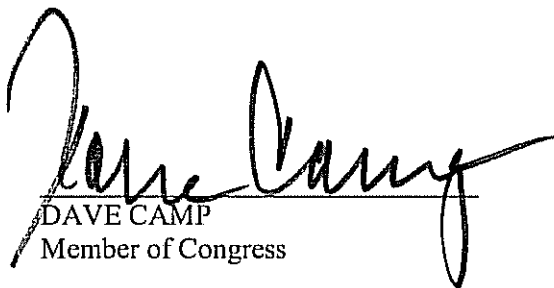
Dear Speaker Hastert, Leader Pelosi, Chairman Thomas and Ranking Member Rangel:

As Members of the Michigan Congressional Delegation, we want underscore the importance of the federal R&D tax credit and urge you to bring before the House as soon as is practical legislation to extend and improve this vital tax incentive. With the June 30, 2004, expiration date quickly approaching, we believe it is imperative for the Congress to extend and strengthen this important tax credit for as long a period as possible.

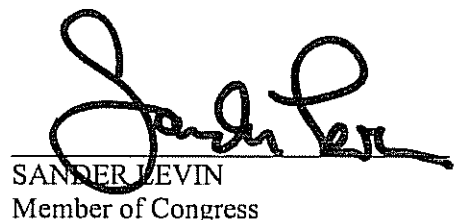
The R&D credit is a valuable tool in stimulating U.S. businesses to innovate, expand, and remain competitive in a global economy. As you may know, the manufacturing sector is the largest user of the R&D credit. As such, it is critical to Michigan's competitiveness to help the state's battered manufacturing sector gain as much tax leverage as possible.

Michigan companies lead the nation in many areas of research and development and the growth of high wage jobs. The continued growth of our state's economy is closely tied to the ability of Michigan companies to make a sustained commitment to long-term high cost research. We look forward to working with you to continue our shared commitment to research and development in the United States.

Sincerely,



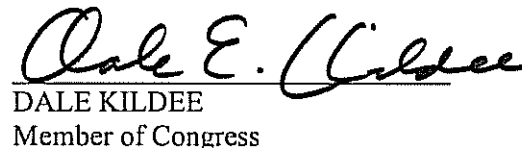
DAVE CAMP
Member of Congress



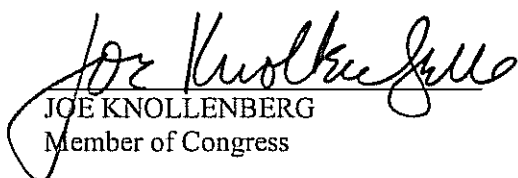
SANDER LEVIN
Member of Congress



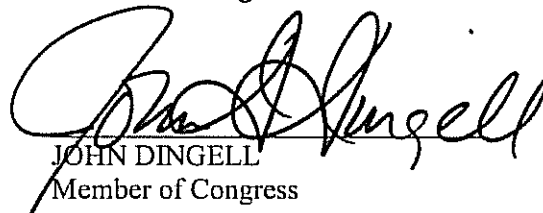
THADDEUS MCCOTTER
Member of Congress



DALE KILDEE
Member of Congress



JOE KNOLLENBERG
Member of Congress



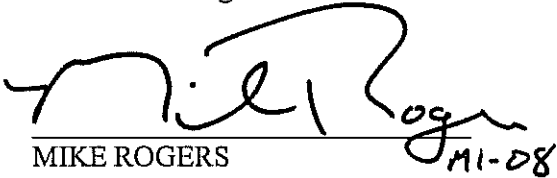
JOHN DINGELL
Member of Congress



VERN EHLERS
Member of Congress



JOHN CONYERS
Member of Congress



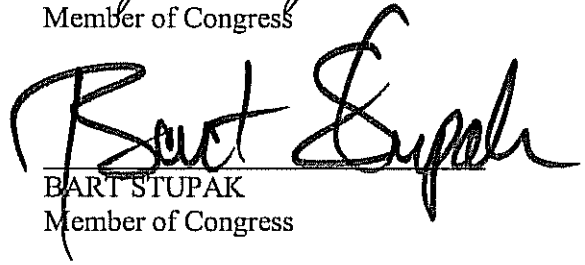
MIKE ROGERS
Member of Congress



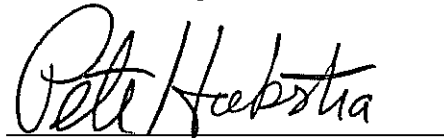
CAROLYN KILPATRICK
Member of Congress



FRED UPTON
Member of Congress



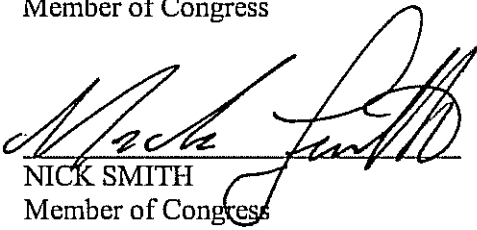
BART STUPAK
Member of Congress



PETE HOEKSTRA
Member of Congress



CANDICE MILLER
Member of Congress



NICK SMITH
Member of Congress