

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY

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Congressional Nanotechnology Caucus

May 2011

Dear Colleague:

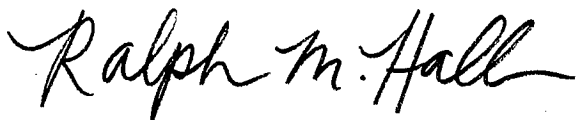
We invite you to join the bipartisan and bicameral Congressional Nanotechnology Caucus. Nanotechnology is the understanding and control of matter at dimensions between approximately 1 and 100 nanometers, where unique phenomena enable novel applications (a nanometer is one-billionth of a meter. A sheet of paper is about 100,000 nanometers thick.). Encompassing nanoscale science, engineering, and technology, nanotechnology involves imaging, measuring, modeling, and manipulating matter at this length scale. It is crucial for America's competitiveness to stay in the forefront in regard to nanotechnology and its expected impact on the future of many fields.

The purpose of the Nanotechnology Caucus is to educate policy makers about the potentials of nanotechnology, including its effect on job creation and other economic benefits it presents for the Nation as well as efforts to ensure that both workers and the public remain safe as uses of these technologies expand.

The National Nanotechnology Initiative (NNI), codified by Congress in 2003, is the Nation's program to coordinate Federal nanotechnology research and development. In the past two Congresses, the House passed an NNI reauthorization bill three times only to see it languish in the Senate. Regardless, Congress continues to support the NNI programs through appropriations for the Federal agencies that undertake nanotechnology research. The Nanotechnology Caucus will seek to build on these efforts as well as keep Members apprised of the latest developments in the field. The Caucus does not take positions on legislation.

For more information or to join the Congressional Nanotechnology Caucus, please contact Aaricka Aldridge in Congressman Hall's office at aaricka.aldridge@mail.house.gov or 5-6371 or Dahlia Sokolov in Congresswoman Johnson's office at dahlia.sokolov@mail.house.gov or 5-6375.

Sincerely,



Ralph Hall
Chairman



Eddie Bernice Johnson
Ranking Member