



March 19, 2026

The Honorable Ted Cruz
Chairman
Committee on Commerce, Science, and
Transportation
United States Senate

The Honorable Maria Cantwell
Ranking Member
Committee on Commerce, Science, and
Transportation
United States Senate

The Honorable Brian Babin
Chairman
Committee on Science, Space, and Technology
United States House of Representatives

The Honorable Zoe Lofgren
Ranking Member
Committee on Science, Space, and Technology
United States House of Representatives

Dear Chairman Cruz, Chairman Babin, Ranking Member Cantwell, and Ranking Member Lofgren:

The Quantum Industry Coalition urges you to advance National Quantum Initiative (NQI) reauthorization legislation quickly, and to use that legislation to maintain or expand the nation's level of investment in quantum technologies and to recognize and further support advances in near-term quantum applications. The original NQI authorization expired in September 2023. Timely action and refocusing of efforts to account for advancements in the technology is critically important as we race with China and others to lead in this vitally important field.

Updating the NQI will help ensure that resources are appropriately directed where they will be most effective in our quest for global quantum leadership. Your committees have an opportunity to act now to reauthorize the NQI as the President reportedly prepares to issue a quantum Executive Order and a Fiscal Year 2027 Budget Request with quantum technology priorities. Beyond the value of seizing the current moment is the concern that the election shortens the window to pass meaningful legislation this year. Expeditious committee action maximizes the chance of floor votes before Independence Day, while delay risks postponing reauthorization to the next Congress. We are pleased to see that a markup of the Senate bill has been scheduled.

The vast potential of quantum technology for science, national security, and the U.S. economy is why it has consistently been a priority for federal investment. The Administration's [Fiscal Year 2027 Research and Development Budget Priorities Memorandum](#) identifies quantum information science and technology as a key area of focus. We ask that your committees reauthorize the NQI at levels at least equal to the original levels – and ideally higher. We recognize and expect that funding should be carefully tailored to ensure maximum return on investment of taxpayer dollars, but the United States will be hard-pressed to compete effectively against China and other countries that have increased their own spending substantially as we have remained flat.

Failure to reauthorize the NQI expediently also puts the United States at risk of falling further behind our allies and adversaries. The United Kingdom recently announced a [£2 billion quantum technology program](#) that includes advanced procurement of large-scale quantum computers, supporting basic research as well as funding commercialization of quantum technologies with near-term applications. The US-China Commission [reported](#) that China has substantial public investment and long-term strategic planning supporting both basic research in quantum and application development and deployment. Near-term quantum applications are also included in the Australian, Italian, EU, Canadian, and Japanese quantum programs. Our allies and adversaries are taking action; we urge you to do so.

The NQI and private investment have helped advance the state of the art in quantum technology fields in the United States over the past seven years, and increased public-private partnership will be critically important to support future advancements and expedite commercialization. Reauthorization should embrace this, and should support efforts to expand beyond basic hardware research to include engineering and near-term application development. The Administration's Memorandum takes this all-of-the-above approach, noting that "bolstering U.S. leadership will require advancing fundamental science while also tackling emerging engineering challenges and strengthening the critical technologies enabling the quantum ecosystem." The Memorandum goes on to instruct agencies to "advance basic quantum information science, while also prioritizing R&D that expands the understanding of end user applications and supports the maturation of enabling technologies."

We agree with this approach. In previous letters, we have discussed ways that federal departments and agencies can leverage quantum technologies to meet their various mission requirements without picking winners and losers. We have also suggested incentives such as grand challenges, prizes, and milestone-based payments, which can advance quantum commercialization without interfering in the marketplace.

The United States is in a quantum technology race with China and other global competitors. The winner will reap enormous national security and economic benefits. You have an opportunity to lead your committees in charting the nation's path for the next several years. We look forward to working with you to report a strong National Quantum Initiative reauthorization bill expeditiously.

Sincerely,



Paul Stimers

Executive Director

Quantum Industry Coalition

www.quantumindustrycoalition.com

The [Quantum Industry Coalition](#) (QIC) is a group of companies dedicated to maintaining the United States' leadership in the development and commercialization of quantum technologies. Our members range from start-ups to Fortune 100 companies focusing on many aspects of quantum technology, including hardware, software, and application development.