



January 11, 2016

The Honorable Randy Weber
Chairman, House Committee on Science, Space and Technology
2319 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Weber:

We are writing in support of H.R. 4084, The Research and Development Capabilities for Advancement of Nuclear Energy Act. Third Way is a strong supporter of advanced nuclear technologies and is working to provide a viable path towards commercialization and to ensure that the United States remains a global leader in nuclear innovation.

Advanced nuclear energy presents a critical opportunity for the United States to develop reliable, affordable, and clean energy to address climate change and meet growing energy demand in the developing world. With dozens of reactor projects under development, the country has an opportunity to generate enormous economic, national security, and environmental benefits. Unfortunately innovators are struggling to move forward due to lack of access to the right tools to develop and commercialize their technologies.

Your bipartisan bill, which is currently under review in the House Committee on Science, Space and Technology, would provide much needed research and development capabilities and infrastructure for advanced nuclear energy development, including enhanced computational tools, the construction of a new fast spectrum test reactor, and the establishment of a dedicated budget. This would answer innovators' need for access to federal research and development facilities where they can test their fuels, materials, and coolants, and maximize the safety of their reactors.

We applaud your leadership in the sponsorship of this bill. The U.S. government plays a vital role in the future of the advanced nuclear sector and H.R. 4084 puts in place actions to ensure that the US moves this important industry forward. We look forward to supporting it as it moves through the House and Senate.

Sincerely,

Josh Freed
Vice President for the Clean Energy Program
Third Way





CC: The Honorable Lamar Smith
Chairman, House Committee on Science, Space and Technology
2321 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

CC: The Honorable Eddie Bernice Johnson
Ranking Member, House Committee on Science, Space and Technology
394 Ford House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515



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