



## American Chemical Society

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

E. Ann Nalley  
President-Elect, 2005  
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Immediate Past President, 2007

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March 24, 2006

The Honorable Rush Holt  
United States House of Representatives  
1019 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Holt:

On behalf of the American Chemical Society (ACS), I am writing to thank you for your leadership in introducing the Accelerating the Creation of Teachers of Influence for Our Nation Act at a time when the math and science education are a central focus of a vigorous national debate about future U.S. capacity for innovation and global competitiveness. The ACS strongly supports establishing federally funded scholarships, administered by NSF or through partnerships between NSF and other high-education entities, to support individuals holding a discipline-centered academic degree who need pedagogical courses for secondary school teacher certification.

As you may know, the ACS is a nonprofit scientific and educational organization, chartered by Congress in 1938, with more than 158,000 chemical scientists and engineers as members. The world's largest scientific society, ACS advances the chemical enterprise, increases public understanding of chemistry, and brings its expertise to bear on state and national matters.

Throughout our nation's history, American economic and technological strength has been built upon a large and highly-skilled domestic workforce of scientists, technicians, engineers, and mathematicians – the STEM workforce. A strong and growing consensus has emerged in the business, education, and scientific communities that our nation's future economic prosperity and national security will increasingly depend on our ability to better educate our young people in math and science and to attract more of our best and brightest students into technological careers. To keep with our global competitors, we must step up our investment in math and science education.

We applaud your efforts to improve math and science education and your leadership on this issue. The American Chemical Society stands ready to work with you and others to make sure our children have the math and science skills that will enable our nation to remain the world's most innovative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "E. Ann Nalley".

E. Ann Nalley