



Chairman highlights how innovation will help meet our energy, economic needs

Chairman Bart Gordon was [interviewed by Newsweek's Fareed Zakaria](#) about the role innovation can play in meeting our growing need for energy and ensuring our economic competitiveness.

Chairman Gordon and Dr. Zakaria discussed the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Energy, or ARPA-E, as the way to foster innovation to get the breakthroughs we need. ARPA-E will apply to energy technology development the research model that gave the Defense Department breakthroughs like GPS, body armor, and the internet. ARPA-E will be a non-bureaucratic agency within the Department of Energy tasked with high risk, high reward energy technology development. It will bring together the best and the brightest from all sectors—national labs, academia, the private sector, individual inventors—in a way that has never been done in energy research.

The development and adoption of new technologies is responsible for about half of the growth in the country's GDP over the past five decades. Innovation will be a key to our long-term economic recovery and growth.

[Read the article by Fareed Zakaria >>](#)

[Listen to Chairman Gordon discuss the issue >>](#)

NASA Reauthorization Signed Into Law



On [October 15](#), the President signed [H.R. 6063](#), the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Act of 2008. [H.R. 6063](#), authored by Space and Aeronautics Subcommittee Chairman Mark Udall, authorizes appropriations to NASA for FY09 for science, aeronautics, exploration, education, space operations, cross-agency support programs, and the inspector general.

In addition to the achievements over the past 50 years, Chairman Gordon applauded [NASA's Spinoff report](#).

"NASA has achieved remarkable accomplishments over the past five decades. This bill provides important direction to ensure the leadership of the U.S. civil space programs and will help ensure that the next 50 years of our space program are equally bright," said Udall.

[Read about H.R.](#)

Looking Ahead

The Committee plans to [continue to work](#) on the issue of electronic waste (e-waste) during the next Congress. Research is needed to find easier, safer ways to recycle e-waste, which contains both valuable metals and toxic materials.

<http://science.house.gov>

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Newsletter Spotlight

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Sincerely,

Bart Gordon,
Chairman,
U.S. House Committee



Last year [Chairman Bart Gordon led the Committee's "green" renovation of office space](#). Currently, the Committee is in the second phase renovating the main Committee hearing room.

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