know that science and technology are the wellsprings of economic competitiveness and national strength.

In December of last year, Mr. Richard Templeton, President and CEO of Texas Instruments, came to Washington to lead the National Summit on Competitiveness. The theme of that Summit was ''Investing in U.S. Innovation.'' Mr. Templeton and 60 business, academic, and government leaders, including four Cabinet Secretaries, came together to discuss the competitiveness challenge posed by globalization and the rise of new economic competitors, such as India and China. Mr. Templeton and his business and academic colleagues told the President and the Congress that our government must do more to foster America's capacity to innovate by focusing on the health of the American scientific enterprise.

The President rose to the challenge and proposed The American Competitiveness Initiative, a bold plan to double Federal investments in fundamental physical science research over 10 years at three science agencies: the National Science Foundation, the Office of Science in the Department of Energy, and the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

My bills build upon the President's initiative and focus on fostering innovation by providing grants to promising young researchers to pursue research that could lead to the technology breakthroughs of tomorrow. One of my bills provides for matching funds from industry to promote closer ties between academic and industrial researchers.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that so many business, science, and educational organizations have endorsed my bill, including Texas Instruments, AeA (formerly the American Electronics Association), the Telecommunications Industry Association, the Electronics Industries Alliance, the Council on Competitiveness, the Battelle Memorial Institute, the American Chemical Society, the Association of American Universities, and a host of other organizations. I am grateful for their support. Together, we can ensure that America remains first in science and first in economic competitiveness—so that Americans can continue to enjoy the highest standard of living in the world.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS EDUCATION FOR COMPETITIVENESS ACT

HON. JOHN J.H. "JOE" SCHWARZ

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2006

Mr. SCHWARZ of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce today the Science and Mathematics Education for Competitiveness Act. The bill expands and strengthens math and science education programs at the National Science Foundation and the Department of Energy to improve the math and science literacy of our nation and prepare our young people for the high-tech, high-wage jobs of tomorrow.

President Bush, in his State of the Union Address, articulated the link between math and science education and national competitiveness. I agree with the President. Like him, I want to ensure that the 21st Century remains ''the next American century.'' And, like him, I want to ensure that Americans continue to enjoy the highest standard of living in the world.

The jobs of today require a higher level of math and science skills than ever before. The jobs of tomorrow will be even more demanding. And we know that the rest of the world is not standing still. In an increasingly globalized economy, our children and grandchildren will be competing with highly-skilled, highly-educated workers around the world for high-wage jobs in high-value-added industries. I want to make sure that those industries and those jobs stay here in America. To do that, our nation's business leaders tell us that we have to boost the math and science skills of American students.

I know of no better way to improve math and science education in this country than to build upon the successful programs of the National Science Foundation and to expand the ability of some of America's most brilliant scientists and engineers in the Department of Energy to lend their talent and expertise to the education of U.S. students.

In crafting my bill, I focused on what already works and I sought to minimize the creation of new programs. Based on testimony offered in a series of hearings in the Science Committee, and on recommendations offered in a series of reports by American business and academic leaders, my bill focuses on encouraging more teachers to specialize in teaching math and science, and encouraging more students to pursue undergraduate and graduate degrees in math, science, and engineering.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that so many business and educational organizations have endorsed my bill, including Texas Instruments, AeA (formerly the American Electronics Association), the Telecommunications Industry Association, the Electronics Industries Alliance, the Council on Competitiveness, the Battelle Memorial Institute, the American Chemical Society, the National Education Association, the National Science Teachers Association, the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education, the American Association of Physics Teachers, the American Geological Institute, the Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics Education Coalition, the Council of Graduate Schools, the Association of American Universities, and a host of other organizations. I am grateful for their support. Together, we can ensure that America remains the most competitive nation in the world.

TRIBUTE TO TOYOTA MOTOR MANUFACTURING

HON. JOHN N. HOSTETTLER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2006

Mr. HOSTETTLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to recognize Toyota Motor Manufacturing on their 10th anniversary of operation in Princeton, Indiana. Since 1996, Toyota has been a top contributor to both the economy and the community life of southern Indiana. During the past 10 years, Toyota has both harnessed the excellent workforce and favorable business conditions available in our region, and has invested time and resources back into our local people and businesses.

The Princeton Toyota plant opened their doors with an initial investment of $700 million, employing 1,300 team members with a production rate of 100,000 trucks per year. In just 10 years, production has skyrocketed to 300,000 vehicles per year, including the Tundra full-size pickup truck, Sequoia SUV, and Sienna minivan. With the recent addition of another plant in Lafayette, Toyota is now the largest automaker in Indiana.

A study released by University of Evansville and University of Southern Indiana determined that Toyota's annual economic impact in Indiana equals 31,385 jobs, $502.9 million in employee compensation, and $5.5 billion in business sales, representing a significant influence on the economy of southwest Indiana, and the state as a whole. In Gibson County alone, Toyota generates 8,865 jobs, $118.9 million in employee compensation, $518.6 million in business sales. The Evansville area enjoys 12,990 jobs, $341.7 million in employee compensation, and $1.4 billion in business sales as a result of Toyota.

In addition to their positive economic impact, Toyota has been a wonderful neighbor to Princeton and the surrounding communities. Toyota is proactively involved in educational and charitable initiatives by awarding scholarships to local students, and providing grants to local schools and non-profit organizations. I am pleased to commend Toyota as an example of good citizenship.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Toyota on 10 years of outstanding service and contribution to southern Indiana.