



October 11, 2017

*Robert Schmidt
Kevin Burns
Co-Chairmen*

The Honorable James Risch
Chairman
House Committee on Small Business
428A Russell Senate Office Bldg
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Jeanne Shaheen
Ranking Member
House Committee on Small Business
428A Russell Senate Office Bldg
Washington, D.C. 20515

*Jere Glover
Executive Director*

*Matt Oristano
Joseph Schwartz
Mid-Atlantic
Regional Chair*

Dear Chairman Risch & Ranking Member Shaheen-

*Ash Thakker
Southeast
Regional Chair*

The Small Business Technology Council (SBTC), the nation's largest association of small, technology-based companies in diverse fields, would like to offer its support for the "SBIR and STTR Oversight and Pilot Program Extension Act of 2017".

*Mary Delahunty
Southwest
Regional Chair*

This bill would enact a limited extension for the Phase Flexibility, Commercialization Assistance, Phase 0, and 3% Agency Administration pilot programs to the SBIR and STTR programs for 1 year. Since these programs are still new, and there have been no reports or evidence demonstrating how successful they have been, SBTC supports short-term extensions to give the agencies an opportunity to report to Congress on their effectiveness, as well as how the funding for these programs has been spent. Until there is evidence that these programs are effective and useful, it does not make sense to expand them, or give them long-term reauthorizations.

*Russ Farmer
Mountain
Regional Chair*

*Michael Browne
Pacific
Regional Chair*

With less than 1.7% percent of Federal R&D, SBIR/STTR firms have created over 20 percent of America's major innovations, and as many patents as all universities combined. Federal tax calculations show the SBIR/STTR program more than repays the government investment: \$1.46 in increased Federal taxes for every dollar spent on SBIR. State and local taxes add another 71¢, for a total return of 217%, just in taxes. Global giants such as Qualcomm, Symantic, Biogen, iRobot, Genzyme, Illumina, and Genentech emerged from SBIR funding. Meanwhile, SBIR businesses and technologies were also sold or licensed, energizing older industries while cutting costs and generating entire new divisions and new jobs located here in America.

*Roy Keller
State Liaison*

*Paul Donovan
Michael Squillante
NIH Committee
Co-Chairs*

*Ash Thakker
Phase III Committee
Chair*

Given the remarkable record of the SBIR and STTR, we are concerned whenever anyone threatens to take money away from these proven awards.

*Russ Farmer
DCAA Committee
Chair*

SBTC also strongly support the provision strengthening the requirement that agencies file reports to Congress on the effectiveness of these pilot programs. It is essential that agencies comply with the law to file timely reports so that Congress can properly accurately evaluate these programs, before determining whether they should be extended or not.

Thank you Senator Risch and Senator Shaheen for your continued support for small business,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jere W. Glover". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Jere W. Glover
Executive Director
Small Business Technology Council