

April 2, 2009

The Honorable Kendrick B. Meek
1039 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Meek:

On behalf of the R&D Credit Coalition, we thank you for your leadership in introducing H.R. 422, which increases the Alternative Simplified Credit ("ASC") from 14 percent to 20 percent, permanently extends the ASC, and extends the traditional credit through 2010. As you recognize, a vibrant R&D tax credit is a vital engine for our nation's economic growth, competitiveness and prosperity, which is particularly critical given the current state of our economy.

We look forward to working with you and others in Congress and the Obama administration to enact a strengthened, permanent R&D credit in the next appropriate legislative vehicle. We are confident that a strengthened R&D tax credit will contribute to the creation and preservation of high-wage U.S. research and lead to the development of new innovative technologies and products of the 21st century.

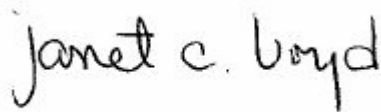
Sincerely,



Bill Sample
Microsoft Corporation
Chair, R&D Credit Coalition



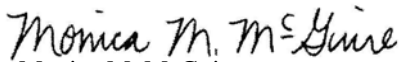
Donna Siss Gleason
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Vice Chair, R&D Credit Coalition



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Government Affairs Committee



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