



January 3, 2019

The Honorable John Thune
511 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

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Dear Senator Thune,

On behalf of Research!America, a national nonprofit alliance working to ensure our nation assigns a top priority to bolstering our nation's science and technology capacity and output, thank you for your successful efforts, in coordination with Senator Nelson, to secure the confirmation of Dr. Kelvin Droegemeier as the next Director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP).

Research!America is grateful for your pivotal role in advancing Dr. Droegemeier's nomination. Securing a leader of Dr. Droegemeier's caliber for this key executive branch position is emblematic of your bipartisan commitment as Chairman of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation to US science and technology, a critically important strategic asset bearing on the prosperity, security, health and wellbeing of the American people.

As you take on a key leadership role in the Senate, we stand ready to support you in policymaking affecting the future of US R&D. Your stewardship over R&D investment and policies that empower the US not just to tread water, but to continue to set the pace for R&D progress, remains crucial as China and other competitor nations pursue increasingly aggressive R&D agendas aimed at growing their economies, ending deadly and debilitating diseases, and bolstering their security capabilities.

Thank you again, and please extend our appreciation to your hardworking staff members, for ensuring that the top position at OSTP is filled with such a capable leader and for the many other ways you are contributing to US R&D excellence, productivity, and leadership.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Woolley". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mary Woolley

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