

SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL RESEARCH AND SERVICES

The amended bill includes \$440,517,000 for the Scientific and Technical Research and Services programs of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), instead of \$500,517,000 as proposed by the House and \$502,117,000 as proposed by the Senate. NIST is directed to submit a spend plan no later than 30 days after enactment of the Act for the programs funded by this appropriation. Further, NIST is directed to develop a new budget structure for the fiscal year 2009 budget which better reflects the organizational structure of the agency.

The amended bill provides \$893,000 for the New York Center for National Competitiveness in Nanoscale Characterization.

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

The amended bill includes \$154,840,000 for Industrial Technology Services (ITS), instead of \$201,819,000 as proposed by the House, and \$179,155,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP). — Of the amounts provided to ITS, \$89,640,000 is provided for MEP. The amended bill does not include \$4,000,000 for a pilot project under MEP, as described in the Senate report.

Technology Innovation Program (TIP). — Of the amounts provided to ITS, \$65,200,000 is for the Technology Innovation Program as authorized by Public Law 110-69. TIP is structured to fund high-risk, high reward research focused on broad national needs such as advanced automotive batteries, aquaculture, novel lightweight materials, and other emerging technologies. The funding provided for TIP will address mortgage obligations relating to projects created under the Advanced Technology Program (ATP). The amended bill also includes language to allow the TIP immediate access to an additional \$5,000,000 from deobligations and prior-year recoveries from ATP.

CONSTRUCTION OF RESEARCH FACILITIES

The amended bill provides \$160,490,000 for construction of research facilities, instead of \$128,865,000 as proposed by the House and \$150,900,000 as proposed by the Senate. NIST is directed to submit a spend plan no later than 30 days after enactment of the Act for activities funded by this appropriation. NIST is also directed to provide quarterly reports on the status and accounting of all construction projects.

Within the amounts provided, the amended bill includes \$51,262,000 for the following construction projects:

- Biotechnology Research Park, University of Mississippi, Jackson, MS 7,332,000