

For Immediate Release
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**The Science Coalition Commends President Bush's Commitment
to Science Funding in FY 2007 Budget**

The Science Coalition today applauded President Bush's commitment to spur new ideas and keep America competitive by significantly increasing funding for science research in his fiscal year 2007 budget. As part of the President's American Competitiveness Initiative, his budget calls for an increase in funding of 7.8 percent for the National Science Foundation (NSF). The President also supports an increased budget for the Department of Energy's Office of Science, proposing funding of \$4.1 billion – a \$505 million increase over 2006 funding.

These substantial increases will provide a critical first year down payment on the President's commitment to double the federal government's investment in science. Increases in these important federal programs, as well as many other science accounts throughout the federal budget, will lead to the new ideas that will create the industries and jobs of the future. Investments in science research, most of which is carried out by America's universities, are a crucial step in continuing America's status as a leader in innovation.

In order for America to be truly competitive, a healthy research budget across all disciplines is critical to meet the many challenges in securing America's health, the economy, and homeland security. The Science Coalition looks forward to working with Congress and its many congressional champions of science from both parties to enact this landmark increase, as well as expanding funding at all agencies for basic science research.

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The Science Coalition is an alliance of more than 400 organizations, institutions and individuals, run by public and private universities and including Nobel Laureates, businesses, voluntary health organizations, medical groups, healthcare providers, and scientific societies -- dedicated to sustaining the federal government's historic commitment to U.S. leadership in basic science.

For more information, please visit the Coalition's website at www.sciencecoalition.org.