AMENDMENT TO H.R. 1806
OFFERED BY MR. LIPINSKI OF ILLINOIS

At the end of title III, add the following new section:

SEC. 308. SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL CONFERENCES.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) cooperative research and development activities, including collaboration between domestic and international government, industry, and academic science and engineering organizations, are important to promoting innovation and knowledge creation;

(2) scientific and technical conferences and trade events support the sharing of information, processes, and data within the scientific and engineering communities;

(3) in hosting and attending scientific and technical conferences and trade events, Federal agencies—

(A) gain greater access to top researchers and to new and potentially transformative ideas;

(B) keep abreast of developments relevant to their respective missions, as is relevant for future program planning;
(C) help disseminate Federal research results;

(D) provide opportunities both for employee professional development and for recruiting new employees;

(E) participate in scientific peer review; and

(F) support the reputation, visibility, and leadership both of the specific agency and of the United States; and

(4) for those Federal agencies that provide financial support for external research and development activities, participation in scientific and technical conferences can help ensure that funds are directed toward the most promising ideas, thereby maximizing the Federal investment.