



News from Washington

NQI Legislative Update

August 1, 2018

The National Quantum Initiative (NQI) Act has been introduced in both the House and Senate but there is more work to do. While the bills are similar, they vary in one important way – the House version, introduced by the Science, Space, and Technology Committee, covers research and development activities housed within the Department of Energy. The version introduced by the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee, however, does not.



Congressman Lamar Smith (R-TX), Chairman of the House Committee on Science, Space & Technology, speaking at a Quantum on the Hill event

NQI stakeholders have written to Senate Commerce Committee leaders about the benefits of the bill and potential changes to be made. The letter reads, in part:

“We believe this commitment to quantum research and technology is critical to our nation’s position as a global economic leader as well as our national security. We applaud the bill’s emphasis on coordinated research at the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), overseen by National Quantum Coordination Office within the White House Office of Science and Technology

Policy (OSTP). Coordination will fill in critical gaps between different activities, especially between academic and government laboratories.”

You can read the full letter [HERE](#).

The Senate bill, [S. 3143](#), is scheduled to be marked up by the Senate Commerce Committee today, August 1st. Meanwhile, the National Photonics Initiative (NPI) remains in contact with the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee about the issues involved with the goal of introducing the energy portion of the legislation soon.

On the House side, the legislation, [H.R. 6227](#), has been advanced out of the Science Committee and awaits a vote by the full House. Our statement on the House legislation can be read [HERE](#).

NQI in the News

As part of NPI’s education effort on the NQI, Dr. Chris Monroe, chief scientist and founder of IonQ and professor of physics at the University of Maryland, and Dr. Michael Raymer, professor of physics at the University of Oregon, who lead the effort to draft and distribute the NQI Action Plan, recently authored an op-ed in the Washington Times about the NQI Act.

The piece, “Transforming How Information is Processed and Communicated,” reads in part:

“Quantum technology harnesses the radical power of quantum systems - such as isolated atoms, photons and electrons - to transform how we process and communicate information. But that potential can be realized only if our nation’s resources are focused in a way that helps bring quantum research from the laboratory to the marketplace.”

You can read the piece in full [HERE](#).

Manufacturing Summit

NPI Chair Ed White, AIM Photonics Corporate Outreach Executive and Associate Vice President for Test, Assembly, and Packaging, recently participated in Congressman Tom Reed’s (R-NY) Manufacturing Summit where he discussed the work of AIM Photonics in New York State. The Manufacturing Summit featured over 175 local manufacturers, industry experts, and elected officials from the central New York region. White served as a panelist. “The American Institute for Manufacturing Integrated Photonics (AIM Photonics) is an excellent example of a successful customer-driven implementation of the National Network for Manufacturing Innovation (NNMI) as written into law via the Revitalize American Manufacturing and Innovation (RAMI) Act,” White said. “AIM Photonics drives next-generation technological advances in integrated photonics right here in New York State, and is proud to support manufacturing in the United States.”

For more on Congressman Reed’s Manufacturing Summit, click [HERE](#).



NPI Chair Ed White, AIM Photonics Corporate Outreach Executive and Associate Vice President for Test, Assembly, and Packaging, center, participates in Congressman Tom Reed's (R-NY) Manufacturing Summit. PHOTO CREDIT – Office of Congressman Reed

Schedule A Visit

If you or your institution would like to host your local elected officials, NPI can help! Please visit <https://www.lightourfuture.org/home/get-involved/district-visits/>. Many lawmakers may be planning time in their districts in the early fall. Now would be a good time to try to set up a visit or tour of your facility.

Visit our website

Sincerely,

Ed White, Chair, National Photonics Initiative

Contact Us:

The NPI wants to hear from you! Are you interested in joining our efforts? Do you have questions? Need additional information? Please contact David Lang at Dlang@osa.org or Krisinda Plenkovich at KrisindaP@spie.org.

Please visit the NPI website for more information: www.lightourfuture.org.

