External Affairs & Communications
Glenn S. Ruskin
Vice President

March 19, 2019

The Honorable Eddie Bernice Johnson
Chair, House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology
2306 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Frank Lucas
Ranking Member, House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology
2405 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairwoman Johnson and Ranking Member Lucas:

On behalf of the American Chemical Society (ACS), the world's largest scientific society, I convey our support for the bipartisan effort to award Congressional Gold Medals to all the women who contributed to the success of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) during the Space Race, and specifically to Katherine Johnson, Dr. Christine Darden, Dorothy Vaughan, and Mary Jackson.

The ACS strongly believes that America's ability to drive innovation and entrepreneurship flows from an ecosystem that supports a well-trained and diverse workforce leading to advances in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Indeed, for decades the United States has maintained an unmatched ability and capacity to create new products, processes, markets, and industries that change the world. The women to be honored with Congressional Gold Medals helped drive success for NASA, and our nation, in the Space Race and they are now belatedly, but appropriately, receiving the recognition they so richly deserve.

We look forward to continued collaborations with the Committee and Congress to honor and celebrate the contributions of underrepresented populations who have made significant contributions to U.S. science but who have previously failed to be recognized for those achievements. If ACS can be of any assistance to you or your staff, please do not hesitate to contact Karen Garcia at K_Garcia@acs.org.

Sincerely,

Glenn S. Ruskin