

June 20, 2013

The Honorable Darrell Steinberg  
President pro Tem  
California State Senate

The Honorable Bob Huff  
Minority Leader  
California State Senate

Dear President pro Tem Steinberg and Minority Leader Huff,

We, the undersigned companies and organizations, are writing to express our support for the **Taxpayer Access to Publicly Funded Research Act (AB 609)**. This bill will give Californians and the wider public, including researchers, patients, students, educators, journalists, inventors, and small businesses, better access to peer-reviewed scientific articles reporting on research funded by the State of California.

Improving access to this information will benefit Californians and California businesses. **AB 609** will advance the pace of discovery and speed the translation of knowledge into innovative new services and products. That, in turn, will fuel job creation in broad sectors of the economy, from agriculture to energy to medical technology.

**AB 609** is a simple, cost-effective measure based on a proven model. Contrary to the claims of its opponents, this legislation would not result in millions of dollars in additional costs to California universities. It implements a model already proven by the National Institutes of Health (NIH), which, in 2008, instituted a broad policy requiring public access to taxpayer-funded research after 12 months of publication. To date, over 2.4 million articles have been deposited in the NIH repository, PubMed Central. That policy has been widely celebrated by the public—with over 700,000 unique visitors to their online repository per day—and has not resulted in significant costs to universities or publishers.

**AB 609** balances the interests of all stakeholders. By improving access to research outputs, it will facilitate innovation, improve education, accelerate scientific discovery, and fuel California's economy.

Access to research is good public policy and important legislation for California. We urge all members of the California State Senate to support the **Taxpayer Access to Publicly Funded Research Act (AB 609)**.

Sincerely,

CREDO Action  
Californians Aware  
California Common Cause  
eCitizens.org  
Electronic Frontier Foundation  
Engine Advocacy  
Evri GIS Consulting, Inc  
Google  
Internet Archive

Measured Voice  
New Media Rights  
Open Knowledge Foundation America  
Open Science Federation  
PeerJ  
PLoS  
Public.Resource.Org  
Public Knowledge  
TechNet

cc: Senator Jerry Hill  
Assemblymember Brian Nestande  
Assemblymember Nancy Skinner  
Assemblymember Mike Gatto