



News from

# Congressman Ron Kind

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CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

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## Rep. Kind, House Democrats Move Forward on 'Innovation Agenda'

### *House Acts on First Steps of Pro-Growth Legislation Today*

**Washington, D.C.** – As vice-chair of the moderate, pro-growth New Democrat Coalition (NDC), U.S. Rep. Ron Kind today joined NDC chair Ellen O. Tauscher (D-CA) and Education and Workforce Committee Chair Rep. George Miller (D-CA) to announce that the House will today take the first of many steps during the 110th Congress to implement an Innovation Agenda that will spur economic growth and foster the next generation of scientific discovery.

“The Innovation Agenda provides the tools and opportunities necessary to take the American economy to the next level,” Rep. Kind said. “By creating an environment in this country that fosters innovation and growth, we will ensure our businesses and workforce can stay competitive in the 21<sup>st</sup> century global economy. From new education technology and better math and science teachers to train the next generation of innovators, to the promotion of a new sources of energy and the expansion of markets for our products, this comprehensive agenda will create a strong foundation to build the economy of the future.”

The effort to develop an Innovation Agenda began nearly two years ago outside Washington in meetings with leaders and CEOs from many fields: academia, venture capital, and entrepreneurs from the high-tech, biotech, and telecommunications sectors who are creating the jobs of tomorrow. The Innovation Agenda involves partnerships with the private sector to invest in a workforce ready for global competition.

The Innovation Agenda will:

- Advance math, science, technology, and engineering education;
- Invest in federal research and development;
- Spur affordable access to broadband;
- Promote green energy technology; and
- Provide small business with tools to encourage entrepreneurial innovation.

This week, the House will pass legislation that addresses crucial innovation and competitiveness issues for our country. Those measures will increase the number of highly qualified math and science teachers in K-12 (H.R. 362), support young researchers to foster the most innovative scientific research (H.R. 363), and make capital more accessible for small businesses, which are catalysts for technological innovation (H.R. 1332).

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“Rural communities across Wisconsin and the country are desperate for high quality teachers in math and science,” Rep. Kind said. “If America is going to lead, we need to take all of our schools to the next level so our kids can compete in the 21st century economy. From encouraging our best and brightest young minds to go into the teaching profession and pursuing new education technology, to supporting young researchers and innovative businesses ideas – we will foster the next generation of innovators.”

Already this year, the NDC and House Democrats have led the way in promoting innovation through smart investments in education, science, and research and development in the Continuing Resolution and the fiscal 2008 Budget Resolution.

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