

February 23, 2022

The President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

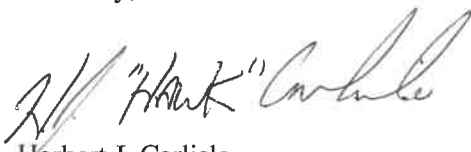
We urge you to move promptly to nominate a Director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP), who will also be Science Advisor to the President.

The Director of OSTP plays a significant role in the national security innovation enterprise. In addition to their work in the Executive Office of the President, the Director works closely with Pentagon, Homeland Security, and Intelligence Community leadership to ensure we have the best technologies to support our national security and homeland defense strategies. You acknowledged the importance of this position by taking the historic step of elevating OSTP's Director to Cabinet-level status.

In our role leading the National Defense Industrial Association (the nation's largest such organization, with over 1600 large, medium, and small business members, as well as many university members) we have seen how important the work of OSTP and the Science Advisor can be in ensuring that we have a defense industrial, research, and innovation base that supports national security. OSTP's talented staff, comprised of experts from government agencies, national labs, and universities, leads interagency activities, develops Administration policies and Executive Orders, and works with Congress to shape legislation affecting the national security research and industrial enterprise. As just one example, OSTP recently hosted a landmark workshop on quantum computing, a key Pentagon modernization area and a focus of many of NDIA's member companies. In another timely area, OSTP staff are engaged in ensuring that our nation's research enterprise is not subject to undue foreign influence or suffering from theft of intellectual property. For these reasons and more, we ask that you move prudently and quickly to fill this important position, and to continue to support the staff of OSTP in their critical work in service to our nation's science and technology enterprise.

We look forward to continuing our work with the OSTP staff and the new Director, as well as other members of the Administration, to support efforts to build and sustain the national security industrial capacity for the future.

Sincerely,



Herbert J. Carlisle
General, USAF (Ret)
President and CEO



Dr. Mark Lewis
Executive Director
NDIA Emerging Technologies Institute

CC: Ron Klain, Chief of Staff
Alondra Nelson, Acting Director OSTP