

Congresswoman Matsui Named to House Science Committee

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Washington, DC - Congresswoman Doris O. Matsui (CA-5) expanded her portfolio with an assignment to the House Committee on Science. With this Committee assignment, in addition to her seat on the Rules Committee, the Congresswoman will work to ensure we are crafting sound policy to make certain the US's continued preeminence in scientific research, and reinvigorate math, science and engineering education to produce the next generation of scientists.

"Science and research and development are critical to this country's global competitiveness and we as a nation must commit to nurturing scientific research and discovery," stated Congresswoman Matsui. "By being named to the Science Committee I can work to ensure we are setting a national policy that is making the critical investments now for future generations. I appreciate the support of Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi (CA-8), Democratic Caucus Chair James Clyburn (SC-6), Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro (CT-3), and Congressman George Miller (CA7) as well as the entire Democratic Steering Committee and I look forward to working with Ranking Member Bart Gordon (TN-6)."

"I am proud to welcome Doris to the Science Committee," added Ranking Member Rep. Bart Gordon (D-TN). "She brings an impressive knowledge of the inner workings of the federal government and agencies to our caucus. I have no doubt that she will be an asset to Committee Democrats as we work to strengthen our nation's research infrastructure and ensure our global leadership in science/math remains strong."

In discussing the new assignment, the Congresswoman added, "With Sacramento home to a thriving scientific community that spans the range of research areas and disciplines, I will have an invaluable pool of resources from which to draw. Earlier this year I was awed by the cutting-edge research being done at the recently opened Biophotonics Center, which is bringing the study of light to bioengineering and life sciences to improve the quality of life. Demonstrating the value of public private scientific partnership, the Center has already leveraged its research to spin off seven local companies.

"And of course Sacramento is home to the region's only federally designated cancer center - the UC Davis Medical Center. As a nation we benefit from their efforts. Researchers discovered a way to improve the early-detection of breast cancer. And they shed light on how some cancer patients contract chemotherapy induced leukemia. I also recently toured the US Geological Survey facility at Sacramento State. While their maps are amazing, they offer so much more. The data they are collecting provides insight into floods, earthquakes, volcanoes, mudslides and so much more.

"Science and technology is truly a growing sector in our region. And these are just a few examples of the important role science is playing across our nation, and why we need to be setting a national policy that encourages and promotes these efforts."

The Science Committee oversees over all non-defense federal scientific research and development, ensuring that federal tax dollars are spent wisely and efficiently in an effort to maintain the U.S.'s global scientific leadership. Work the Committee oversees includes that done (either completely or partially) by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Department of Homeland Security, Department of Energy, Department of Transportation, Environmental Protection Agency, National Science Foundation, Federal Aviation Administration, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Institute of Standards and Technology, U.S. Geological Survey, and the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP).

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