High Tech Task Force rolls out plan to bolster industry from competition abroad

by Bend_Weekly_News_Sources

WASHINGTON, DC â€“ This week the Senate Republican High Tech Task Force led by Chairman Gordon H. Smith (R-OR) unveiled its agenda for the 110th Congress aimed at advancing Americaâ€™s technology industry and growing the economy by eliminating barriers to trade and innovation.

â€œHigh tech companies are facing fierce competition from abroad,â€• Smith said. â€œCongress needs to clear the path for high tech industries to grow and expand. The High Tech Task Force will focus on reforming the tax code and streamlining federal regulations so these job creators can thrive here at home.â€•

Topping the HTTF agenda is improving broadband access for all Americans and helping build an educated high-tech workforce. The agenda also stresses the need to strengthen the economy through a sensible fiscal policy that promotes pro-growth tax and trade policies.

Established in 1999, HTTF is the leading advocate for the technology sector on Capitol Hill promoting broadband deployment to rural areas, telecom reform, and ensuring that federal regulations and the tax code do not hinder technological growth. HTTF holds public forums designed to foster enlightened discussion of important technology issues, in addition to member meetings with industry technology leaders.

Current members include Chairman Gordon Smith (OR) and Senators Wayne Allard (CO), Bob Bennett (UT), Richard Burr (NC), Norm Coleman (MN), Susan Collins (ME), John Cornyn (TX), Jim DeMint (SC), John Ensign (NV), Orrin Hatch (UT), Michael Crapo (ID), Kay Bailey Hutchison (TX), John Sununu (NH) and John Thune (SD). In addition, Senators McCain, Specter, Stevens and Grassley are ex-officio members.