

May 24, 2017

Senator Mitch McConnell
Senate Majority Leader
U.S. Senate

Senator Charles Schumer
Senate Minority Leader
U.S. Senate

The Honorable Paul Ryan
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives

Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi
Democratic Leader
U.S. House of Representatives

Dear Congressional Leaders:

The undersigned U.S. science and engineering, medical and health, and higher education organizations urge you to reject the Administration's proposed cuts to science as you begin to craft the fiscal year (FY) 2018 appropriations. We urge you once again to prioritize these investments that provide sustainable and robust investments in scientific research.

The drastic cuts to NIH, NSF, DOE, USDA, EPA, NOAA, NIST, USGS, portions of DOD and NASA, and other agencies would cripple the science and technology enterprise, severely harming discovery science programs and critical mission agencies alike.

As you are aware and have acted on before, our nation's research enterprise is among the most powerful engines for American prosperity. One of the consistent areas of bipartisan agreement over the past 70 years has been the importance of the federal government's role in supporting research and innovation. One example of this bipartisan support is the final FY 2017 omnibus bill that provided critical funding for federal R&D, and we applaud your support.

As you work to craft appropriations for FY 2018, we ask you to consider the following in your deliberations:

America's research and development (R&D) enterprise has made our nation the world's preeminent, most effective, and sought-after partner for innovation. It is among the most powerful engines of American prosperity, producing value far beyond the sum of its individual agencies. It confirms that a secure, prosperous, and competitive future is found in research across all fields of science and engineering.

- American physical and life sciences leadership has helped us better understand ourselves and our world, enabling us to improve and lengthen American lives, enhance public health, advance food safety and security, and enhance quality of life.
- Environmental, agricultural, and Earth sciences research has allowed state leaders and managers, business owners, and farmers to have access to the available science for critical decision making that impacts our energy and transportation infrastructure, agriculture sector, and water resources management.
- Defense research has improved the effectiveness of our armed forces and our awareness of growing threats around the world, and saves lives on the battlefield and once soldiers are home.

- Social and behavioral science research has been critical to responding effectively to disasters; enhance intelligence analysis; understand decision-making (6.10.5(i))

American Association of Anatomists
American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy
American Association of Geographers
American Association of Immunologists
American Association of Mycobacterial Diseases
American Association of Physicists in Medicine
American Association of Physics Teachers
American Chemical Society
American College of Physicians
American Dairy Science Association
American Educational Research Association
American Forests
American Geophysical Union
American Geosciences Institute
American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering
American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics
American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE)
American Institute of Physics
American Mathematical Society
American Meteorological Society
American Nuclear Society
American Physical Society
American Physiological Society
American Political Science Association

Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health
AVS Science and Technology of Materials, Interfaces, & Processing
Behavior Genetics Association
Biophysical Society
Boston University
Botanical Society of America
Carnegie Mellon University
Coalition for National Security Research (CNSR)
Coastal and Estuarine Research Federation
Cognitive Science Society
Columbia University
Computing Research Association
Consortium of Social Science Associations
Council on Undergraduate Research
Crop Science Society of America
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation
Duke University
Ecological Society of America
FASS
Federation of Associations in Behavioral and Brain Sciences
Foundation for Science and Disability
Geological Society of America
Georgia Institute of Technology
HIV Medicine Association
Idaho Academy of Science and Engineering
Incorporated Research Institutions for Seismology
Institute of Food Technologists (IFT)
Institute of Mathematical Statistics
Kansas Academy of Science
Kentucky Academy of Science
Linguistic Society of America
Medical Library Association
Michigan State University
Michigan Technological University
Microscopy Society of America
Mycobacterial Diseases of Animals MI
National Association for the Advancement of Animal Science
National Association of Geoscience Teachers
National Association of Marine Laboratories
National Conference for Science and the Environment
New York University
North American Primary Care Research Group
North Central Weed Science Society
Oklahoma Academy of Science
OSA (The Optical Society)
Pasadena Chamber of Commerce (CA)

Penn State University
Professional & Scholarly Publishing Division/Association of American
Publishers
Psychonomic Society
Research!America
Rochester Academy of Science, Rochester, NY
Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory
Sigma Xi, The Scientific Research Honor Society
Sjogren's Syndrome Foundation
SoAR Foundation
Society for Behavioral Neuroscience

