

Member Societies

- The American Physiological Society
- American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
- American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics
- American Society for Investigative Pathology
- American Society for Nutrition
- The American Association of Immunologists
- American Association of Anatomists
- The Protein Society
- Society for Developmental Biology
- American Peptide Society
- Association of Biomolecular Resource Facilities
- The American Society for Bone and Mineral Research
- American Society for Clinical Investigation
- Society for the Study of Reproduction
- Teratology Society
- The Endocrine Society
- The American Society of Human Genetics
- Society for Gynecologic Investigation
- Environmental Mutagen Society
- International Society for Computational Biology
- American College of Sports Medicine

April 22, 2008

The Honorable Vern Ehlers
U.S. House of Representatives
2182 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Ehlers:

On behalf of the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB), representing 21 scientific societies with more than 80,000 members, I am writing to express our gratitude for your amendments in opposition to a provision in the "Science and Technology Innovation Act of 2008" (H.R. 5789) that would increase the set-aside to fund the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) program from 2.5% to 3%.

Increasing the set-aside at a time when budgets of the science agencies have stagnated will result in funding cuts for the peer-reviewed basic and applied research that fuel innovation. We note that the Small Business Administration opposes increasing the set-aside for the SBIR program, citing both the lack of an empirical basis for such an increase and the effective reduction in funding that would remain available for agencies' core research programs. Rather than increasing support for one area of research at the expense of all others, we support your efforts to increase funding for research agencies, thereby increasing the total investment in SBIR and other projects.

Thank you very much for your efforts on this important issue. Once again, you have earned the gratitude of the entire research community.

Sincerely,



Robert E. Palazzo, Ph.D.

President

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