



Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology

----Quality Life Through Research----

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 Nutritional Sciences
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
Association of American Physicians
American College of Sports Medicine

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April 6, 2006

Senator Christopher S. Bond
United States Senate
Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Bond:

I would like to thank you, on behalf of the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB), its 22 member societies, and more than 84,000 researchers, for your recent amendment (#3226) regarding visas for scientists and students. FASEB greatly appreciates your interest and leadership on this critical issue.

The American scientific enterprise benefits immensely from the contributions of international scientists who travel here to study and exchange knowledge. The relationships and collaborations established between U.S. scientists and their foreign colleagues have proven critical to rapid scientific advancement. We maintain our competitive edge as the world leader in science and innovation because we welcome the international scientific community to share their skills and ideas through our research institutions.

Furthermore, FASEB would like to compliment you for your insight in expanding the scope of legislative language to include master's and postdoctoral students. The postdoctoral training period is an important part of the career development of biomedical research scientists. Foreign postdoctoral fellows contribute substantially to the success of our scientific enterprise, and facilitating their ability to train in the U.S. would be a common sense change that both enhances the economic security of our nation and sends a welcoming message to the international scientific community.

Thank you again for your efforts on behalf of the scientific community; they are deeply appreciated.

Sincerely,

Bruce R. Bistrian, M.D., Ph.D.
FASEB President