



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
American College of Sports Medicine

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Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology

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

Sent to all members House L/HHS Approp. subcommittee

June 21, 2006

The Honorable Ralph Regula
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human
Services, Education and Related Agencies
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

On behalf of the twenty-two scientific societies and more than 84,000 researchers and clinicians that comprise the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology, I write to express our views on the Fiscal Year 2007 Labor-HHS-Education appropriations bill recently reported by your subcommittee.

While we are acutely aware of the fiscal constraints confronting your subcommittee, we are deeply disappointed with the decision to freeze NIH's FY2007 budget at its FY2006 level, given that many of our most astounding advances in medicine are the direct result of federal investment in NIH research.

The NIH FY2007 funding level recommended by your subcommittee would amount to a reduction after inflation, and could have serious long-term consequences for our country. All of our progress in medicine – reduction in deaths from heart disease and cancer, increased longevity, victories against infectious diseases – is due to our investment in medical research. This budget, which represents a loss of more than 11 percent of NIH's purchasing power since FY2003, will delay lifesaving advances to people who desperately need them.

Therefore, as the appropriations process moves forward, we strongly urge you to take every opportunity to bolster NIH funding.

Sincerely,

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

