



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

Biophysical Society

American Association of Anatomists

The Protein Society

The American Society for Bone and
Mineral Research

American Society for Clinical
Investigation

The Endocrine Society

The American Society of Human
Genetics

Society for Developmental Biology

Associate Members

American Peptide Society

Association of Biomolecular
Resource Facilities

Society for the Study of Reproduction

Teratology Society

Radiation Research Society

Society for Gynecologic
Investigation

Environmental Mutagen Society

International Society for
Computational Biology

President and Board Chairman

Paul W. Kincade, Ph. D.
Member and Head, Immunobiology
Program

Oklahoma Medical Research
Foundation
825 N.E. 13th Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73104-5097
Telephone: (405) 271-7905
Fax: (405) 271-8568
E-mail: kincade@omrf.ouhsc.edu

Office of Public Affairs
9650 Rockville Pike
Bethesda, Maryland 20814-3998
Telephone: (301) 634-7650
Fax: (301) 634-7651
WWW: <http://www.faseb.org/opa>

November 5, 2004

The Honorable Arlen Specter
711 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510-3802

Dear Senator Specter:

I am writing on behalf of the 65,000 members of the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB) to ask you to support an amendment successfully included by Representative Carolyn Maloney during House deliberations of the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and Related Agencies Appropriations Act FY 2005 (H.R. 4766) that will protect the integrity of scientific evidence during agency rule making. The amendment, which reasserts current law, states that if the FDA finds a drug to be safe and effective for over the counter (OTC) use, the FDA cannot withhold the drug from OTC use for non-statutory reasons.

As you are aware, scientific advisory committees assure that the government hears from the nation's top experts in a particular field before creating policy in that area. The Federal Advisory Committee Act requires that such committees be "fairly balanced in terms of the points of view represented" and requires that advice and recommendations "not be inappropriately influenced by the appointing authority or by any special interest."

FASEB believes that the Maloney amendment protects the spirit of the Federal Advisory Committee Act by eliminating any opportunity to include political ideology in agency decision making. Again, we ask that you support the Maloney amendment throughout the entire appropriations process when considering H.R. 4766.

Sincerely,



Paul W. Kincade, Ph.D.
President