



FASEB

Federation of American Societies
for Experimental Biology

Representing Over 130,000 Researchers

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FASEB Statement on Further Extension of FY 2018 Continuing Resolution (H J Res 128)

The Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB) is alarmed that the Further Extension of Continuing Appropriations Act (H J Res 128) would raise the spending cap for the Department of Defense for fiscal year (FY) 2018 while leaving all other agencies operating under a continuing resolution until March 23, 2018. Congress should redouble its efforts to finalize the FY 2018 budget for the entire federal government instead of singling out one funding category or agency.

Completing the FY 2018 appropriations process cannot be accomplished until an agreement is reached to raise all of the spending caps imposed by the Budget Control Act. “We continue to encourage congressional leaders to negotiate revised spending limits for defense and non-defense programs and reach a comprehensive deal as soon as possible,” said FASEB President Thomas O. Baldwin, PhD.

Raising the current cap on non-defense discretionary spending is vital to our nation’s scientific endeavors. The current cap is too low to accommodate adequate growth for the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation, and other federal research agencies, impeding their ability to support the research grants that drive scientific discovery. Inadequate and uncertain funding disrupts planning for both long-term research initiatives and large-scale projects, and limits career opportunities for younger researchers.

Stable and predictable growth is essential for the U.S. to have a healthy scientific enterprise and maintain its global leadership. “Congress must take all necessary steps to ensure that the U.S. remain the world leader in medical and scientific research,” added Baldwin.