



# FASEB

Federation of American Societies  
for Experimental Biology

## Representing Over 130,000 Researchers

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www.faseb.org

9650 Rockville Pike  
Bethesda, MD 20814

February 22, 2018

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Senate Majority Leader  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Chuck Schumer  
Senate Minority Leader  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Paul Ryan  
Speaker  
U.S House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Democratic Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Thad Cochran  
Chairman  
Senate Appropriations Committee  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patrick Leahy  
Ranking Member  
Senate Appropriations Committee  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Rodney Frelinghuysen  
Chairman  
House Appropriations Committee  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nita Lowey  
Ranking Member  
House Appropriations Committee  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Leader McConnell, Leader Schumer, Speaker Ryan, Leader Pelosi, Chairman Cochran, Chairman Frelinghuysen, Ranking Member Leahy, and Ranking Member Lowey:

On behalf of the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB), thank you for your efforts to negotiate a bipartisan agreement to increase the Budget Control Act spending caps for fiscal years (FY) 2018 and 2019 and provide relief from sequestration. We are especially grateful that the Bipartisan Budget Act (BBA) of 2018 includes a commitment to provide additional funding for the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

The increase in the FY 2018 non-defense discretionary cap included in the BBA will accommodate much needed growth for NIH, the National Science Foundation (NSF), and other federal research agencies. With additional funding, NIH and NSF will be able to support more grants that drive scientific discovery, expand career opportunities for younger researchers, begin new clinical trials, and plan for large-scale research initiatives.

In September 2017, the Senate Appropriations Committee approved a bipartisan bill that would provide a \$2 billion increase for NIH. A \$1 billion increase for medical research was included in an omnibus bill approved by the House last fall.

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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 • The Teratology Society  
The Endocrine Society • The American Society of Human Genetics • International Society for Computational Biology • American College of Sports Medicine  
Biomedical Engineering Society • Genetics Society of America • American Federation for Medical Research • The Histochemical Society • Society for Pediatric Research  
Society for Glycobiology • Association for Molecular Pathology • Society for Redox Biology and Medicine • Society For Experimental Biology and Medicine  
American Aging Association (AGE) • U.S. Human Proteome Organization (US HUPO) • Society of Toxicology (SOT)

As Congress finalizes FY 2018 spending decisions, we urge you to ensure that NIH receives at least \$36.1 billion in addition to the dedicated funding authorized by the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures Act. We also request that the FY 2018 omnibus appropriations bill include at least \$8 billion for NSF, a minimum of \$375 million for the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative within the Department of Agriculture, \$5.5 billion for the Department of Energy Office of Science, and \$722 million for the Veterans Administration Medical and Prosthetic Research Program.

Stable growth is essential for a healthy scientific enterprise and to keep pace with growing international competition. Science requires sustained support in order to produce new knowledge, innovations, and cures, and take advantage of the abundant opportunities that are available today.

Once again, thank you for taking decisive action to raise the non-defense discretionary spending caps for FY 2018 and 2019. We look forward to working with you to pass an FY 2018 omnibus appropriations bill as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas O. Baldwin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Thomas O. Baldwin, PhD  
FASEB President