FASEB THANKS SENATOR HARKIN FOR NIH SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING, URGES SENATE SUPPORT OF SUPPLEMENTAL SCIENCE FUNDING

Bethesda, MD – The Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB) has expressed thanks to medical research champion Senator Tom Harkin (D-IA) for including $400 million for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in the Senate supplemental appropriations bill, and has urged the Senate to support the measure. “The money in the supplemental package will help NIH recoup some of the loss it has suffered... over years of diminishing funding,” said FASEB President, Robert Palazzo, Ph.D., in a letter to the Senator. He added his appreciation for Senator Harkin’s “long-time support of the important work of NIH and the scientists who strive to improve the country’s health.”

FASEB has mobilized the members of its 21 constituent societies, calling on scientists to contact the Senate in support of the supplemental, which also includes additional funding for the National Science Foundation (NSF). “The research funded by NIH and NSF provides hope for patients suffering from devastating diseases and injuries, as well as solutions for our society’s most pressing concerns” stated Palazzo in a FASEB letter to the Senate. “Innovations in energy, communications, diagnostics, and healthcare are founded on the basic science that is dependent on federal funding. Unfortunately, inadequate funding for research agencies has imperiled research progress and is turning away many of our best and brightest scientists.”

The FASEB President called the inclusion of NIH and NSF funding in the supplemental appropriations bill “an important step forward towards better health and quality of life.”

FASEB is composed of 21 societies with more than 80,000 members, making it the largest coalition of biomedical research associations in the United States. FASEB enhances the ability of biomedical and life scientists to improve—through their research—the health, well-being and productivity of all people. FASEB’s mission is to advance biological science through collaborative advocacy for research policies that promote scientific progress and education and lead to improvements in human health.