



FASEB

Federation of American Societies
for Experimental Biology

Representing Over 130,000 Researchers

P.O. Box 2288, Rockville, MD 20847 | faseb.org

January 10, 2022

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chair, Appropriations Committee
United States Senate

The Honorable Richard Shelby
Ranking Member, Appropriations Committee
United States Senate

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Chair, Appropriations Committee
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Kay Granger
Ranking Member, Appropriations Committee
U.S. House of Representatives

Dear Chair Leahy, Chair DeLauro and Ranking Members Shelby and Granger:

The Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB) represents over 130,000 biomedical researchers worldwide. Our nonprofit is comprised of 30 member societies actively supporting the effort to urge Congress to **finalize FY 2022 funding for the U.S. Government**. The current “continuing resolution” (CR) leaves all federal agencies operating under FY 2021 levels nearly four months into the new fiscal year. Additionally, we remain concerned that there is still the prospect of a long-term CR beyond February if Congress does not come to final agreement soon. Recent reports of progress in the ongoing conversations between Appropriations Committee leadership are a welcome development, and we urge you to continue your efforts to reach an agreement on the overdue spending bills.

The current situation is creating uncertainty, inefficiencies, and disruption for federal agencies such as the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the National Science Foundation (NSF), which are key funding agencies for the majority of our researchers. These researchers are doing the hard work of developing new therapies, diagnostics, and general knowledge for the US research and scientific enterprise at a pivotal time in our history as other countries invest heavily in theirs. CRs also prevent agencies such as the Department of Energy Office of Science, US Department of Agriculture’s Agriculture and Food Research Initiative, Veterans Administration’s Medical and Prosthetic Research Program, and others from funding new grants and expanding training programs for a cohort of diverse early career researchers. Also in jeopardy is the \$3.5 billion increase for NIH and the \$1.1 billion increase for NSF recommended by the Appropriations Committees in the summer of 2021.

As our biomedical enterprise continues to learn more about the Omicron variant, NIH needs robust FY 22 funding to fully support the breadth of promising research proposals that could lead to cures and treatments to eliminate the heavy disease burden caused by long standing illnesses such as cancer, Alzheimer’s, cardiovascular disorders among others. Currently, 80

Full members: 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 for Anatomy • 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 Society for Birth Defects Research & Prevention • The Endocrine Society • American College of Sports Medicine • Genetics Society of America • The Histochemical Society • Society for Glycobiology • Association for Molecular Pathology • Society for Redox Biology and Medicine • Society For Experimental Biology and Medicine • American Aging Association • U. S. Human Proteome Organization • Society of Toxicology • Society for Leukocyte Biology • American Federation for Medical Research • Environmental Mutagenesis and Genomics Society • Shock Society • **Associate members:** The American Society of Human Genetics

percent of NIH's budget funds medical research by scientists, institutions, and small businesses in every state and Washington, DC. This investment multiplies its return to local economies. NIH-funded research has yielded new and better diagnostics, prevention strategies, and more effective treatments for COVID and other illnesses, which are only increasing as our population ages.

Robust, predictable funding for our federal scientific and innovation ecosystem is critical to accelerating progress towards cures, fueling local economies, and improving our global competitiveness. Our country cannot afford another CR beyond February. Please redouble your efforts to finalize the FY 2022 budget.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patricia L. Morris". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Patricia L. Morris, MS, PhD
FASEB President