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FASEB Statement on Gun Violence Research

FASEB joins the nation in mourning the lives lost due to the senseless violence resulting from mass shootings that have taken place in too many communities across the country. As an organization whose mission is to advance health and well-being by promoting research and education in biological and biomedical sciences through collaborative advocacy, we continue to support previous efforts to lift prohibitions that prevented the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) from conducting to evaluate research into firearm safety and gun violence prevention. These restrictions on the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and Centers for Disease Control (CDC) were in place for more than two decades and interfered with their ability to support high-quality, peer-reviewed research related to gun violence.

From fiscal year 2019 through 2022, Congress included funding in the annual NIH and CDC appropriations bills to support research on gun violence. FASEB urges Congress to continue providing federal resources to allow the NIH and CDC to maintain ongoing efforts to support scientific research and data collection that will inform the development, evaluation, and implementation of public health interventions to understand and prevent gun violence, injuries, and mortality. Additional research funding should also be directed to innovate interventions that address traumas associated with such violence, both physical and mental.

Approved by the FASEB Executive Committee June 23, 2022