



FASEB

Federation of American Societies
for Experimental Biology

Representing Over 115,000 Researchers

6120 Executive Blvd., Suite 230, Rockville, MD 20852 | faseb.org

October 3, 2022

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chair
Senate Appropriations Committee
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Richard Shelby
Ranking Member
Senate Appropriations Committee
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Chair
House Appropriations Committee
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Committee
Washington, DC 20515

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

On behalf of the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB) — which includes 115,000 researchers from 28 member societies — I am writing to express support for the National Institutes and Health (NIH) and the National Science Foundation (NSF). These federal research agencies are necessary for our nation's scientific, economic, and national security through both the knowledge they develop and the pipeline for the scientific workforce they enable. We are concerned there may be across-the-board cuts in FY 2023 non-defense discretionary spending to pay for an increase in defense spending. However, cuts to these agencies will threaten our nation's leadership in global research and development and will have impacts ranging from unemployment to weakened national defense.

As you work to finalize the FY 2023 appropriations, FASEB urges you to increase funding over the pending House and Senate marks for both NSF and NIH. FASEB respectfully [requests](#) NSF receive at least \$11 billion. While this exceeds what was included in the House (\$9.6 billion) and Senate (\$10.3 billion) appropriations bills, Congress should consider the \$11.89 billion authorization level for NSF that was included in the recently enacted *Chips and Science Act* (P.L 117-67) — and the recognized urgency to increase our competitiveness — when finalizing FY 2023 spending levels. This increase in top-line spending should also amount to increases throughout the agency — particularly in the research account — as NSF develops their annual spend plan. Unfortunately, despite NSF receiving an overall increase of four percent in FY 2022, four of the seven research directorates saw a decrease in spending compared to FY 2021 levels, including Biological Sciences, which received \$12 million less than in FY 2021. This directorate's biologists are now bridging physics, chemistry, engineering, informatics, material science and mathematics, as well as other disciplines to address key questions about us, our planet, and how the two impact each other.

FASEB also respectfully requests at least \$50 billion for NIH's base budget for FY 2023 to continue the recent multi-billion-dollar annual increases for biomedical research that have been approved by

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 • 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 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 • 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 • The Society for Birth Defects Research & Prevention

Congress and led to remarkable progress in science. The importance of NIH-funded research to our nation cannot be understated, especially considering the last two years of successfully addressing the COVID-19 pandemic. NIH-funded basic fundamental research has been instrumental in the rapid and safe development of COVID vaccines, as well as [a nasal COVID vaccine](#) that could be available soon in the United States. Meanwhile, an India-based company licensed from [Washington University, St. Louis](#), now has the technology based on the efforts of the university's NIH-funded researchers to launch their own [nasal vaccine](#). These are powerful examples of what NIH-funded research can do not only for the United States but for the world. This investment in NIH research far outweighs the [trillions](#) of dollars COVID cost the economy and the now lingering impact of those who were incapacitated or died from COVID.

I urge you to provide robust increases in funding for NSF and NIH in the final FY 2023 appropriations bills.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kevin C. Kregel". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Kevin" being the most prominent.

Kevin C. Kregel, PhD
FASEB President