



FASEB

Federation of American Societies
for Experimental Biology

Representing Over 125,000 Researchers

301.634.7000
www.faseb.org

9650 Rockville Pike
Bethesda, MD 20814

September 30, 2015

Dear Senator/Representative:

Our nation has long been the global leader in the biomedical sciences. The importance of federal investment in this vital area was recognized by the House and Senate Appropriations Committees, which approved legislation to provide additional funding for the National Institutes of Health and the National Science Foundation. We now ask you and your colleagues to expedite passage of the fiscal year (FY) 2016 spending bills that included proposed funding increases for these critically important research agencies.

Decades of federal investment in research have produced new knowledge that has led to increased longevity, enhanced quality of life, novel treatments for diseases, the creation of innovative products, and establishment of new industries. Federal funding has supported the training of thousands of graduate students pursuing advanced degrees in science, ensuring a robust and internationally competitive workforce. Pioneering discoveries in biology opened the way for advanced therapies and increased agricultural productivity. Today, the opportunities in biomedical research and many other areas of science are greater than ever, and continued progress is essential to secure our future. Answers to pressing problems will demand creative solutions. Our ability to protect public health, feed the nation, and develop competitive new industries will depend on our command of emerging areas of science. After years of eroded purchasing power, funding cuts, and neglect of long-term needs, these increased funds are crucial to maintain our highly productive research enterprise and our nation's leadership in key areas of science.

The Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB) greatly appreciates the increased levels of funding that were recommended by the appropriations committees for the coming fiscal year. However, we are concerned that failure to reach a bipartisan budget agreement in the next few months will jeopardize the much needed new investment in research.

FASEB comprises 27 societies with more than 125,000 members, making it the largest coalition of biomedical research associations in the United States. I am joined by the Presidents of our member societies in urging you to complete the important work that has been started and enact legislation that will ensure the expanded commitment to research contained in the FY 2016 appropriations bills will become a reality.

Sincerely,



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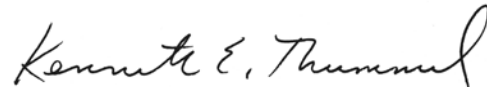
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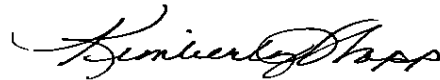
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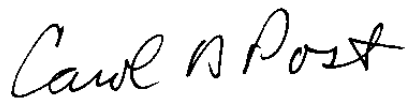
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