

February 4, 2022

The Honorable Chuck Schumer  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
Room S-221, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
Room S-230, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20501

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker of the House  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Room H-232, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Minority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Room H-204, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Leader Schumer, Speaker Pelosi, Minority Leader McConnell, and Minority Leader McCarthy,

On behalf of the undersigned science, engineering, math and public health organizations, thank you for your collective efforts to finalize FY 2022 appropriations. We urge you to continue the push and finish the job to avoid a long-term continuing resolution (CR). Our nation faces ongoing public health, environmental, economic and security challenges, and a long-term CR would harm the historically bipartisan prioritization of funding for research and development (R&D) agencies that play a critical role in addressing those challenges, as well as the ability for these agencies to properly plan for the future.

Lifesaving COVID vaccines are just one particularly timely example of how decades of federally funded research driven by discovery, together with private sector innovation and partnership, has solved problems and yielded incredible benefits to society. Following through on [proposed FY 2022 funding levels](#) for key research agencies – including NIH, NASA, NSF, DOE, DOD, USDA, NOAA, EPA, USGS and NIST – will foster new innovations and support STEM talent, including early-career researchers and scientists and engineers from underrepresented groups. It will enable exciting new efforts such as ARPA-H for high-risk, high-reward biomedical research; major boosts in areas such as advanced energy solutions and pandemic preparedness; and growth for programs in multiple agencies to bolster U.S. STEM education and the workforce, just as [new NSB data](#) points to stagnant math scores and fewer graduate students with federal government support.

As you know, America is not alone in the quest to tackle the challenges of the future and chart a prosperous path forward. Though we remain the world leader in total R&D, competition with foreign economies to [sustain U.S. preeminence in science and technology](#) is real. For example, in 2019, China's R&D grew by 13%, the largest of major economies, and its R&D intensity – R&D as a share of GDP – also grew rapidly, nearly tripling between 2000 and 2019. The gap has also

continued to close in scientific publications and patents. Stop-gap measures seriously undermine our scientific research, delay the development of new technologies, and increase the risk of ceding our leadership to global competitors at a pivotal time when innovative scientific advancements are accelerating.

Investing in S&T is a bipartisan win for everyone. We urge you to complete your efforts and finish the FY 2022 appropriations process with robust support for scientific research and development.

Sincerely,

Academy for Radiology & Biomedical Imaging Research  
American Anthropological Association  
American Association for Dental, Oral, and Craniofacial Research  
American Association for the Advancement of Science  
American Association of Physics Teachers  
American Chemical Society  
American Educational Research Association  
American Geophysical Union  
American Geosciences Institute  
American Institute for Medical & Biological Engineering  
American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics  
American Institute of Biological Sciences  
American Mathematical Society  
American Physical Society  
American Physiological Society  
American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology  
American Society for Microbiology  
American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics  
American Society of Agronomy  
American Society of Neuroradiology  
American Society of Plant Biologists  
American Society of Tropical Medicine & Hygiene  
American Sociological Association  
American Thoracic Society  
Association for Psychological Science  
Association for Women in Science  
Association of Population Centers  
Biocom California  
Biophysical Society  
Coalition for the Life Sciences  
Council on Undergraduate Research  
Crop Science Society of America

Ecological Society of America  
Endocrine Society  
Entomological Society of America  
Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology  
Federation of Associations in Behavioral and Brain Sciences  
Friedreich's Ataxia Research Alliance  
Geological Society of America  
Infectious Diseases Society of America  
Lasker Foundation  
Optica (formerly OSA), the Society Advancing Optics and Photonics Worldwide  
Population Association of America  
Research!America  
Sigma Xi, The Scientific Research Honor Society  
Society For Biomaterials  
Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics  
Society for Neuroscience  
Society for Personality Assessment  
Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues  
Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging  
Soil Science Society of America  
SPIE, the international society for optics and photonics  
Supporters of Agricultural Research (SoAR) Foundation  
The Gerontological Society of America  
The Oceanography Society

cc: House and Senate Appropriation Chairs