December 4, 2019

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

The undersigned organizations, representing hundreds of thousands of individuals and institutions working in science, technology, engineering, medicine and mathematics, urge you to complete work on the fiscal year (FY) 2020 appropriations bills as soon as possible. The uncertainty created by short and long-term continuing resolutions (CRs) has severe consequences for science and research.

Our community is grateful for the leadership shown earlier this year when the government reached a budget agreement that lifted the restrictive discretionary budget caps in place under the Budget Control Act of 2011. Taking this important step paves the way for meaningful increases to science and research programs and agencies across the federal government in 2020 and beyond. Furthermore, we are encouraged by the strong support from appropriators on both sides of the Capitol and on both sides of the aisle for increasing funding for research and development (R&D) across multiple agencies and programs.

Federal investments provide the lifeblood for research, discovery and innovation in the United States, driving one of the most powerful engines for American prosperity and global leadership. At least two dozen federal agencies fund defense and nondefense R&D. Failing to complete work on the appropriations bills that fuel this engine in a timely manner impedes our ability to address fundamental challenges such as chronic and infectious diseases, food and energy security, cybersecurity and natural disasters—all of which require advancements in science and technology fostered through federal investments.

We call on you to work in a bipartisan manner and without delay to complete work on the FY 2020 spending bills so that we can continue to lead the world in science and innovation and improve the health, security and economic strength of our nation. Our organizations and our members stand ready to work with you toward this goal. Thank you for consideration of our views.

Sincerely,

Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics  
Academy of Radiology and Biomedical Imaging Research  
AcademyHealth  
Acoustical Society of America  
Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research
International Society for Magnetic Resonance in Medicine
International Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasis
The Kidney Cancer Association
KidneyCAN
The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society
LUNGevity Foundation
Materials Research Society
Medical Image Perception Society
The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson’s Research
Moffitt Cancer Center
Mycobacterial Diseases of Animals Multi-State Initiative
National Alliance for Eye and Vision Research
National Alliance on Mental Illness
National Association for Biomedical Research
National Coalition for Food and Agricultural Research (NCFAR)
Neurofibromatosis Network
New Mexico Academy of Science
Oregon State University
OSA-The Optical Society
Pancreatic Cancer Action Network
Penn State University
Population Association of America
Poultry Science Association
Research!America
Rochester Academy of Science, Rochester, NY
SAGE Publishing
Seismological Society of America
SHEPHERD Foundation
Society for Advanced Body Imaging
Society for American Archaeology
The Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America
Society for Imaging Informatics in Medicine
Society for Industrial and Organizational Psychology
Society for Neuroscience
Society for Pediatric Radiology
Society for Personality and Social Psychology
Society for Psychophysiological Research
Society for the Study of Evolution
Society of Breast Imaging
Society of Chairs of Academic Radiology Departments
Society of General Internal Medicine
Society of Skeletal Radiology
Society of Thoracic Radiology
Society of Toxicology
Soil Science Society of America
Southeastern Universities Research Association
SPIE, the international society for optics and photonics
The State University of New York
Supporters of Agricultural Research (SoAR) Foundation
Theresa’s Research Foundation
Tuberous Sclerosis Alliance
UCLA
Union of Concerned Scientists
US Dairy Forage Research Center Stakeholder Committee
Vanderbilt University
Veterans for Common Sense
Weed Science Society of America
West Virginia University
Western North American Region (WNAR) of the International Biometric Society (IBS)
Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution
ZERO - The End of Prostate Cancer