



# The American Physiological Society

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February 21, 2018

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The Honorable Roy Blunt, Chairman  
Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services,  
Education, and Related Agencies  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patty Murray, Ranking Member  
Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services,  
Education, and Related Agencies  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Blunt and Ranking Member Murray,

The American Physiological Society (APS) is grateful for your leadership as champions of the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

Decades of federal investment in basic research have laid the groundwork for advances in treating diseases, improving health, and increasing our understanding of the world around us. As we face new challenges that include an aging population and emerging infectious disease, investing in biomedical research has never been more important.

Your continued support of the NIH is critical now because stagnant budgets and the rising cost of biomedical research have eroded the agency's spending power. As a result, we have been unable to devote adequate resources to promising lines of research, and scientists are losing confidence in the future of biomedical research in this country. We believe that predictable and sustainable budget growth is essential so NIH can pursue important research and to ensure that we have a workforce ready to undertake cutting-edge research.

As you finalize the fiscal year (FY) 2018 appropriations for the agency, we urge you to invest an additional \$2 billion in the future of our nation's health.

Sincerely,

Dennis Brown, Ph.D.  
President

*The American Physiological Society is a professional society dedicated to fostering research and education as well as the dissemination of scientific knowledge concerning how the organs and systems of the body work. The Society was founded in 1887 and now has more than 11,000 member physiologists. APS members conduct NIH-supported research at colleges, universities, medical schools, and other public and private research institutions across the U.S.*

*Empowering discovery to improve health*