

July 28, 2006

The Honorable Thad Cochran
Chairman
Senate Appropriations Committee
S-128 Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Robert Byrd
Ranking Member
Senate Appropriations Committee
S-125A Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20510

Senators Cochran and Byrd,

On behalf of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), the largest multidisciplinary science society in the world and the publisher of the prestigious peer-reviewed journal, *Science*, we would like to thank you for your support of a broad, balanced portfolio of R&D investments in the FY 2007 Commerce, Justice and Science appropriations.

Your efforts to provide substantial increases to the NSF and NIST budgets as part of the President's American Competitiveness Initiative are greatly appreciated, as are the increases for NOAA and NASA. Federal support for basic research across the spectrum of disciplines will help lead our nation to new discoveries and innovations.

We recognize that Congress faces many competing priorities as it formulates the budget and thus we applaud your leadership in this endeavor.

Sincerely,



Gilbert S. Omenn, M.D., Ph.D.
Chairman of the Board of Directors, AAAS
Prof. of Medicine, Genetics, and Public Health
University of Michigan



Alan I. Leshner, Ph.D.
Chief Executive Officer, AAAS
Executive Publisher, *Science*



July 28, 2006

The Honorable Richard Shelby
Chairman
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee
on Commerce, Justice and Science
S-146A Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Barbara Mikulski
Ranking Member
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee
on Commerce, Justice and Science
144 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Shelby and Mikulski,

On behalf of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), the largest multidisciplinary science society in the world and the publisher of the prestigious peer-reviewed journal, *Science*, we would like to thank you for your support of a broad, balanced portfolio of R&D investments in the FY 2007 Commerce, Justice and Science appropriations.

Your efforts to provide substantial increases to the NSF and NIST budgets as part of the President's American Competitiveness Initiative are greatly appreciated, as are the increases for NOAA and NASA. Federal support for basic research across the spectrum of disciplines will help lead our nation to new discoveries and innovations.

We recognize that Congress faces many competing priorities as it formulates the budget and thus we applaud your leadership in this endeavor.

Sincerely,

Gilbert S. Omenn, M.D., Ph.D.
Chairman of the Board of Directors, AAAS
Prof. of Medicine, Genetics, and Public Health
University of Michigan

Alan I. Leshner, Ph.D.
Chief Executive Officer, AAAS
Executive Publisher, *Science*