



September 25, 2006

The Honorable Joe Barton  
Chairman, House Energy and Commerce Committee  
2125 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Barton:

On behalf of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), the world's largest multi-disciplinary science society and the publisher of the journal *Science*, I wish to express support for the NIH Reform Act of 2006.

I appreciate your willingness to work with the scientific community in drafting this bill. It is my hope that a clean version will pass the House this week.

As you know, it is vitally important that Congress support the research taking place at NIH. Thank you for recognizing how critical this work is to our nation's well-being.

Sincerely,

Alan I. Leshner