

June 23, 2009

Dear Senator :

The undersigned, patient advocacy organizations, scientific and professional societies, higher education associations, and research institutions, write to express our opposition to a provision in the SBIR/STTR Reauthorization Act of 2009 (S.1233) that would increase the allocation for the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) program from 2.5% to 3.5% of any federal agency budget that provides more than \$100 million for research.

We recognize the benefits of the participation of small businesses in scientific research. However, a mandatory increase in the SBIR allocation across agencies will necessarily result in funding cuts for the peer-reviewed research conducted by other organizations. This fundamental research creates the discoveries that fuel innovation, improve quality of life and contribute to our country's economic growth. Indeed, the increase in the SBIR allocation proposed in S. 1233 will restrict competition for \$1 billion in federal research dollars, during a time when future funding levels are uncertain. Rather than increasing support for one type of research at the expense of all others, we urge Congress to work with the Obama Administration to increase funding for all research, thereby increasing the total investment in SBIR.

We hope to work with you to address the issue of the SBIR allocation as the legislative process moves forward.

Sincerely,

Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research  
American Association for Dental Research (IADR)  
American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS)  
American Association of Anatomists (AAA)  
American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN)  
American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM)  
American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP)  
American College of Radiology (ACR)  
American Educational Research Association (AERA)  
American Gastroenterological Association (AGA)  
American Liver Foundation (ALF)  
American Mathematical Society (AMS)  
American Psychological Association (APA)  
American Society for Biochemistry & Molecular Biology (ASBMB)  
American Society for Investigative Pathology (ASIP)  
American Society for Nutrition (ASN)  
American Society for Pharmacology & Experimental Therapeutics (ASPET)  
American Society of Nephrology (ASN)  
American Statistical Association (ASA)  
Arizona State University  
Association for Psychological Science (APS)

Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO)  
Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC)  
Association of American Universities (AAU)  
Association of Independent Research Institutes (AIRI)  
Association of Population Centers (APC)  
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (A·P·L·U)  
Association of Schools of Public Health (ASPH)  
Biophysical Society (BPS)  
Boston University School of Medicine  
California Institute of Technology  
Case Western Reserve University  
Cedars-Sinai Medical Center  
Coalition for the Advancement of Health Through Behavioral and Social Sciences  
Research (CAHT-BSSR)  
Coalition for the Life Sciences (CLS)  
Coalition to Protect Research (CPR)  
Columbia University  
Computing Research Association (CRA)  
Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA)  
Consortium of Universities for the Advancement of Hydrologic Science, Inc. (CUAHSI)  
Council of Energy Research and Education Leaders (CEREL)  
Council of Environmental Deans and Directors  
Duke University  
Energy Sciences Coalition (ESC)  
Environmental Mutagen Society (EMS)  
Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB)  
Federation of Behavioral, Psychological, and Cognitive Sciences (FBPCS)  
Harvard University  
Indiana University  
Institute for the Advancement of Social Work Research (IASWR)  
Ktech Corporation  
Michigan State University  
National Alliance for Eye and Vision Research (NAEVR)  
National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)  
National Caucus of Basic Biomedical Science Chairs (NCBBSC)  
National Council for Science and the Environment (NCSE)  
National Health Council  
National Multiple Sclerosis Society  
NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital  
North Carolina State University  
NYU Langone Medical Center  
Ornithological Council  
Population Association of America (PAA)  
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey  
Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics (SIAM)  
Society for Neuroscience (SfN)

Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD)  
Society for the Study of Reproduction (SSR)  
Stanford University  
SUNY Upstate Medical University  
Syracuse University  
The American Association of Immunologists (AAI)  
The American Brain Coalition (ABC)  
The American Physiological Society (APS)  
The American Society for Cell Biology (ASCB)  
The American Society of Human Genetics (ASHG)  
The Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR)  
The Endocrine Society  
The Ohio State University  
The Teratology Society  
Tulane University  
University of Cincinnati  
University of Maryland  
University of Maryland School of Medicine  
University of Miami  
University of Minnesota Medical School  
University of Rochester  
University of Southern California  
University of Texas Health Science Center  
University of Vermont  
University of Virginia  
University of Washington  
University of Wisconsin-Madison  
Vanderbilt University  
Washington University in St. Louis  
Weill Cornell Medical College  
Yale University School of Medicine