

Representing Over 130,000 Researchers

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Testimony of the

Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology

Prepared for the

House Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related

Agencies

Representative Rosa DeLauro, Chair

Representative Tom Cole, Ranking Member

On

FY 2021 Appropriations for the National Institutes of Health

The Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB) respectfully requests a minimum of \$44.7 billion in fiscal year (FY) 2021 for the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

The NIH is the nation's largest funder of biomedical research, providing competitive grants to support the work of 300,000 scientists at universities, medical centers, independent research institutions, and companies nationwide.

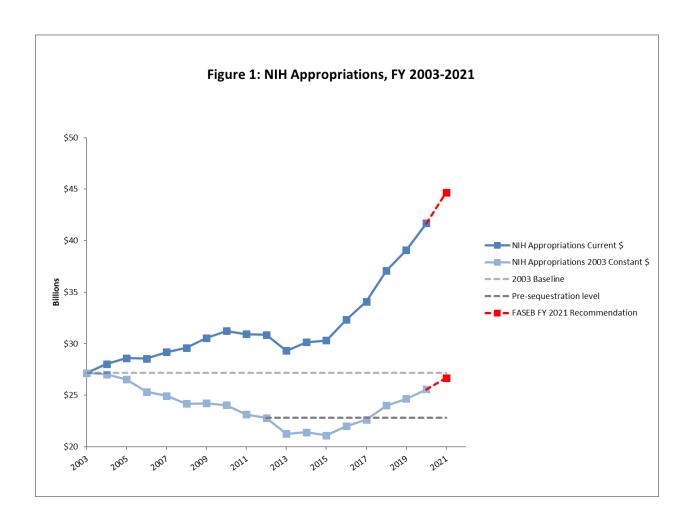
Congress has renewed its commitment to this critical research agency, providing robust, sustained, and predictable budget increases over the last five fiscal years (Figure 1). With these resources, NIH has accelerated progress across all areas of medical science, including regenerative medicine, cancer immunotherapy, and neurological health.^{1,2,3} The agency has also expanded its commitment to support more of the best and brightest young scientists, the next generation of our biomedical research enterprise.⁴

Though the NIH is in a stronger position than it was just a few years ago, Congress must continue to increase biomedical research funding because our nation and the world are confronting daunting public health threats, especially given a changing global climate. More research will be needed to address increased risks posed by infectious diseases and greater exposure to environmental pollutants. ⁵

In the U.S., we also must address the needs of an aging population. NIH-supported research is developing therapies and cures for the whole spectrum of age-related disorders.⁶

The great challenges of a changing climate and our aging population will require us to expand our robust investment in biomedical research. A \$44.7 billion budget (\$3 billion above FY 2020) would allow NIH to continue its commitment to the Next Generation Researchers Initiative; provide \$404 million already authorized through the 21st Century Cures Act for key research initiatives; and provide a 3 percent budget increase across NIH Institutes and Centers, allowing them to bolster research areas in need of resources.

FASEB FY 2021 Recommendation: at least \$44.7 billion for NIH



¹ NIH Regenerative Medicine Innovation Project, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD

² NCI's Role in Immunotherapy Research, National Cancer Institute, Bethesda, MD

³ The BRAIN Initiative Summary, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD

⁴ NIH Grants and Funding, Next Generation Research Initiative, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD

⁵ <u>IPCC AR5 Climate Change 2014, Chapter 11: Human Health: Impacts, Adaptation, and Co-Benefits</u>

⁶ Aging Well in the 21st Century: Strategic Directions for Research on Aging, National Institute on Aging, Bethesda, MD