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FASEB Statement on Bipartisan Effort to Increase the Budget Caps

The Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB) commends Speaker Nancy Pelosi, Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, and President Trump for agreeing to initiate bipartisan discussions to increase the discretionary spending caps for fiscal year (FY) 2020 and 2021. We also appreciate the efforts of Chairman John Yarmuth and the House Budget Committee to develop legislation that would provide additional funding for biomedical research and other discretionary programs. FASEB urges the congressional leadership and the administration to move quickly to reach an agreement so that the appropriations committees can enact FY 2020 spending bills before the end of the fiscal year.

During FASEB's Capitol Hill Day last month, nearly sixty researchers from 29 states met with 109 congressional offices to explain how the Budget Control Act spending caps put onerous constraints on funding for scientific research and why a healthy scientific enterprise requires stable, sustained growth. Congress' renewed commitment to the National Institutes of Health and the National Science Foundation have enabled profound breakthroughs to advance health, train the next generation of scientists, and grow the economy. Timely enactment of a bipartisan, bicameral agreement to increase the discretionary spending caps is necessary to continue to rebuild our nation's research capacity and keep pace with international competition.

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