

June 13, 2022

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Chairwoman
U.S. House Appropriations Committee
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human
Services, Education, and Related Agencies
Washington, D.C., 20515

The Honorable Tom Cole
Ranking Member
U.S. House Appropriations Committee
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human
Services, Education, and Related Agencies
Washington, D.C., 20515

Dear Chairwoman DeLauro and Ranking Member Cole,

On behalf of the 46 undersigned organizations representing biomedical professional societies, academic institutions, veterinary groups and technical staff, pharmaceutical companies, and individual researchers we request the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies (LHHS) consider the following while drafting its fiscal year (FY) 2023 appropriations bill and report:

1. Include language that supports and provides additional funding for large animal foundational and translational research supported by the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Large animal research includes, but is not limited to canines, felines, nonhuman primates, pigs, sheep, rabbits, ferrets, hamsters, guinea pigs, and llamas.
2. Consider the numerous laws, regulations, and policies that strictly regulate animal research and to consult with the scientific community when drafting appropriations language to ensure future requirements are evidence-based and in the best interest of human and animal health.
3. Acknowledge the critical need for nonhuman primate research and allocate additional funding for NIH and the National Primate Research Centers (NPRCs) to allow researchers to conduct this essential work.
4. Address the ongoing refusal of numerous airlines to transport animals for research purposes. Specifically, the biomedical research community encourages the House LHHS Appropriations Subcommittee to include language that directs the NIH, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Food and Drug Administration to form an interagency committee that develops and routinely evaluates a federal plan that ensure the long-term support, breeding locations, veterinary oversight, and enrichment and social needs of nonhuman primates in the U.S.
5. Include language that directs NIH to provide a list of steps the agency intends to take over the next year to reduce investigator burden, as required by the 21st Century Cures Act; this should be accompanied by implementation timelines and planned strategies for communicating new information with the extramural community.

For additional scientific context and information about these requests, please see the attached letter which includes references and examples demonstrating the importance of federally-funded animal research and its role in safeguarding economic and national security.

Sincerely,

American Academy of Neurology (AAN)
American Association for Laboratory Animal Science (AALAS)
American Association of Universities (AAU)
American Association of Veterinary Medical Colleges (AAVMC)
American Federation for Medical Research (AFMR)
Americans for Medical Progress (AMP)
American Heart Association (AHA)
American Physiological Society (APS)
American Psychological Association (APA)
American Society for Bone and Mineral Research (ASBMR)
American Society for Investigative Pathology (ASIP)
American Society for Nutrition (ASN)
American Society of Laboratory Animal Practitioners (ASLAP)
American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics (ASPET)
American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA)
Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC)
Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO)
Association of Primate Veterinarians (APV)
Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities (APLU)
California National Primate Research Center (CNPRC)
Columbia University Irving Medical Center
Emory National Primate Research Center (ENPRC)
Environmental Mutagenesis and Genomics Society (EMGS)
Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB)
Federation of Associations in Behavioral and Brain Sciences (FABBS)
National Association for Biomedical Research (NABR)
New Jersey Association for Biomedical Research (NJABR)
Northwest Association for Biomedical Research (NWABR)
Oregon Health Sciences University (OHSU)
Oregon National Primate Research Center
Public Responsibility in Medicine and Research (PRIM&R)
Society for Neuroscience (SfN)
Society for Redox Biology and Medicine (SfRBM)
Society for the Study of Reproduction (SSR)
Society of Toxicology (SOT)
Southwest National Primate Research Center (SNPRC)
Texas Biomedical Research Institute
The American Brain Coalition
The Jackson Laboratory (JAX)
The Shock Society
Understanding Animal Research
University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus
University of Pittsburgh
University of Washington
Washington National Primate Research Center (WaNPRC)
Yale University