Senator Mitch McConnell
Senate Majority Leader
U.S. Senate

Senator Charles Schumer
Senate Minority Leader
U.S. Senate

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives

Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy
Republican Leader
U.S. House of Representatives

Dear Congressional Leaders:

The undersigned U.S. science, engineering, and medical organizations urge you once again to prioritize federal research investments, raise the budgetary caps imposed on the discretionary budget and provide sustainable and robust investments for federal research in fiscal year 2020.

The Administration's proposed cuts to NIH, NSF, DOE, USDA, EPA, NOAA, NIST, USGS, portions of DOD and NASA, and other agencies would derail the science and technology enterprise, severely harming discovery science programs and critical mission agencies alike.

As you are aware, our research enterprise is among the most powerful engines for American prosperity. This engine of discovery and innovation has been sustained by bipartisan support.

One example of this bipartisan support is the final FY 2019 appropriations and omnibus bills that provided critical funding for federal R&D, and we applaud your support. As you work to craft appropriations for FY 2020, we ask you to consider the following in your deliberations:

- The challenges we face as a nation – emerging infectious diseases, food security, energy security, natural disasters, cybersecurity and education – demand a science and engineering solution.

- *Unfortunately*…The U.S. trails behind the top eight EU nations in science and engineering bachelor degrees awarded. The U.S. now ranks 10th in the world in research intensity, according to the OECD Science Indicators. And China is set to surpass the U.S. in total R&D expenditures, as detailed by the NSF Science & Engineering Indicators.

- *Fortunately*... A new poll shows that an overwhelming majority of voters – 88 percent – from both parties believe it is important for the federal government to fund science and technology research. One of the consistent areas of bipartisan agreement over the past 70 years has been the importance of the federal government's role in supporting research and innovation.

Our members and our organizations stand ready to work with you as you craft appropriation bills for our nation's federal research agencies. Thank you for your consideration.

Acoustical Society of America
American Association for the Advancement of Science
American Association for Dental Research

American Association of Physics Teachers
American Astronomical Society
American Chemical Society
American Educational Research Association
American Geophysical Union
American Geosciences Institute
American Institute of Biological Sciences
American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering (AIMBE)
American Institute of Physics
American Mathematical Society
American Meteorological Society
American Physical Society
American Physiological Society
American Psychological Association
American Society of Agronomy
American Society for Cell Biology
American Society for Microbiology
American Society for Nutrition
American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics
American Society of Plant Biologists
American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene
American Sociological Association
American Thoracic Society
Association for Psychological Science
Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology
Association for the Sciences of Limnology and Oceanography
Association of Science-Technology Centers
Biophysical Society
Coalition for the Life Sciences
Consortium for Ocean Leadership
Consortium of Social Science Associations
Council of Scientific Society Presidents
Crop Science Society of America
Ecological Society of America
Endocrine Society
Entomological Society of America
Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology
Federation of Associations in Behavioral and Brain Sciences
Genetics Society of America
Geological Society of America
Federation of American Scientists
OSA-The Optical Society
Research!America
Sigma Xi, The Scientific Research Honor Society
Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues
Society for Neuroscience

Soil Science Society of America
The international society for optics and photonics (SPIE)
The Oceanography Society
U.S. Pharmacopeia (USP)

cc: Appropriation Chairs and Ranking Members