

July 7, 2009

The Honorable Nydia Velázquez
Chairwoman
Small Business Committee
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515
VIA FACSIMILE TO: (202) 226-0327

The Honorable Sam Graves
Ranking Member
Small Business Committee
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515
VIA FACSIMILE TO: (202) 225-8221

The Honorable Bart Gordon
Chair
Committee on Science and Technology
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515
VIA FACSIMILE TO: (202) 225-6887

The Honorable Ralph M. Hall
Ranking Member
Committee on Science and Technology
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515
VIA FACSIMILE TO: (202) 225-3332

Re: H.R. 2965, the Enhancing Small Business Research and Innovation Act of 2009

Dear Chairwoman Velázquez, Chairman Gordon, Ranking Member Graves and Ranking Member Hall,

The undersigned, patient advocacy organizations, scientific and professional societies, higher education associations, and research institutions, **write to express our support for your efforts to reauthorize the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) at its current allocation level.** We stand together in opposition to a provision in the Senate 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. **As the legislative process moves forward, we urge the adoption of the House version of this legislation for the reasons described below.**

We recognize the benefits of the participation of small businesses in scientific research. Unfortunately, the Senate has proposed a mandatory increase in the SBIR allocation across agencies that 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 would 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 applaud your hard work on this complex issue, and stand ready to work with you to pass the *Enhancing Small Business Research and Innovation Act of 2009* (H.R. 2965).

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
Small Business California
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