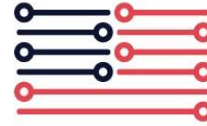


# SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY ACTION COMMITTEE



May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025

The Hon. Tom Cole  
Chair  
House Appropriations Committee  
U.S. House  
Washington, DC 20515

The Hon. Susan Collins  
Chair  
Senate Appropriations Committee  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Hon. Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
House Appropriations Committee  
U.S. House  
Washington, DC 20515

The Hon. Patty Murray  
Vice Chair  
Senate Appropriations Committee  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

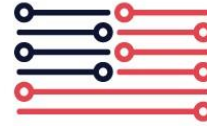
Dear Chair Cole, Chair Collins, Ranking Member DeLauro, and Vice Chair Murray,

As Co-Chairs of the Science and Technology Action Committee (STAC), we write today to express deep concern over proposed budget cuts that threaten to undermine America's scientific leadership and economic competitiveness. The nonpartisan Science and Technology Action Committee (STAC) includes members from non-profit, academic, foundation, and corporate institutions committed to increasing U.S. government investment in science and technology.

As the U.S. government cuts funding for science, China continues to invest heavily in S&T, aiming to surpass the United States in key areas such as artificial intelligence, quantum computing, and biotechnology. Undermining the NSF's capacity to support foundational research and cultivate scientific talent will cede our competitive edge to global rivals. If the proposed cuts are passed by Congress, we will no longer be in competition with China; we will have lost.

Earlier this month marked the 75th anniversary of the National Science Foundation (NSF). Since 1950, NSF has invested in ideas and innovations across all fields of science and engineering. Now, the administration has initiated significant structural changes at NSF, including the elimination of all 37 divisions across its eight directorates and the abolishment of an initiative aimed at improving access to STEM education. These changes are shortsighted and damaging in themselves, but now Congress is considering a budget that will cripple America's scientific enterprise.

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The proposed 56% budget cut for NSF in FY26 will reduce the agency's budget from \$8.8 billion to \$3.9 billion. Previous reductions have already led to the cancellation of over 1,000 active research grants and a significant slowdown in new funding, with the agency awarding half as many grants compared to the same period in 2024. Such cuts jeopardize long-standing U.S. leadership in scientific research and threaten future innovation, economic growth, global competitiveness, and most importantly, negatively impact job opportunities for hardworking Americans across this country.

The NSF has been instrumental in funding basic science research that has led to groundbreaking discoveries and technological advancements. Moreover, 268 Nobel laureates have received NSF funding, underscoring the agency's critical role in fostering

scientific excellence. A recent survey commissioned by Research!America, shows Americans in large majorities across the demographic and political spectrum [support investment in basic scientific research](#) that advances the frontiers of knowledge is necessary and believe it should be supported by the federal government.

We urge you to oppose the proposed budget cuts and support the restoration of the NSF's funding and structural integrity. Sustained investment in scientific research is essential for maintaining our nation's innovation ecosystem, economic prosperity, and global leadership.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter. We stand ready to work with you to ensure America's scientific enterprise remains the most competitive in the world.

Sincerely,

Bill Novelli  
Professor & Founder,  
Business For Impact  
Center, Georgetown's  
McDonough School of  
Business

Keith Yamamoto  
Vice Chancellor  
for Science Policy  
& Strategy UCSF

Sudip Parikh  
CEO, The  
American  
Association for  
the Advancement  
of Science (AAAS)

Mary Woolley  
President & CEO,  
Research!America