



Member of Congress Contact Phone Script

Before the Call

Review <u>VAST's website</u> to learn more about our recommendations to protect the U.S. science & technology enterprise and consider what personal or local anecdote you may be able to share to connect the dangers of federal funding cuts to your legislator's constituency. You can find your representatives' contact information by plugging the member's name into a search engine and visiting their website, which will list their email address and phone number.

Call Script

Hello, my name is ______ and I am a constituent from [CITY/DISTRICT]. I am calling to share my concern with [NAME OF LEGISLATOR] regarding federal investment in our science and technology enterprise.

I urge [NAME OF LEGISLATOR] to protect authorization and appropriations to the National Science Foundation, National Institutes of Health, and other federal research and development agencies. Every American will feel the effects of proposed cuts to our research enterprise. Those proposed budget cuts threaten American global leadership, national security, and economic stability, and will delay or prevent scientific learning and innovation that would enhance the health, wellbeing, and quality of life for all.

[ADD PERSONAL/LOCAL ANECDOTE (OPTIONAL)]

These cuts are a direct threat to the livelihood and wellbeing of our district, America's ability to compete on the global stage, and the future of the enterprise that has led to the most important discoveries in history. I urge the [REPRESENTATIVE/SENATOR] to protect the future of science research and development. Thank you.

After the Call

Calling your member of Congress is a meaningful way to participate in our democracy and advocate for the scientific community. You can also follow up your call with an email to their office and/or posting on social media. Graphics are available <u>HERE</u>.