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November 29, 2016

The Honorable Paul Ryan
Speaker of the House
U. S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Democratic Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Harry Reid
Democratic Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Speaker Ryan and Leaders McConnell, Pelosi and Reid:

On behalf of The Science Coalition, we are writing to express our deep concern about passage of a second short-term continuing resolution in December and urge Congress to instead complete the FY2017 appropriations process this year. The Science Coalition is a non-profit, nonpartisan organization of 60 of the nation's leading public and private research universities dedicated to sustaining the federal government's investment in basic scientific research as a means to stimulate the economy, spur innovation and drive America's global competitiveness.

Continuing resolutions are particularly harmful for research. Budget uncertainty puts ongoing research projects in jeopardy and limits the ability of federal agencies to fund new projects. Given all the work done this year to finalize individual appropriations bills, it is disappointing that a string of continuing resolutions might be the final outcome. Moreover, these bills contained some important proposed increases for science agencies including the National Institutes of Health, NASA's science program, the Department of Energy's Office of Science, ARPA-E and the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative.

Federally funded scientific research is critical to America's ability to innovate, compete and create jobs. We strongly urge Congress to complete the FY2017 appropriations process and provide the proposed increases for America's science enterprise.

Sincerely,

Jack Cline
University of Kansas
Science Coalition President

Glynda Becker
Washington State University
Science Coalition Vice President

Alexandra Hermann
Rutgers University
Science Coalition Treasurer

Anna Quider
Northern Illinois University
Science Coalition Secretary



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Emory University
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The Rockefeller University
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University of Missouri
University of Nebraska
University of New Hampshire
University of New Mexico
University of Notre Dame
University of Oregon
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University of Washington
University of Wisconsin-Madison
Washington State University
Wayne State University
West Virginia University
Yale University