



TASK FORCE ON AMERICAN INNOVATION

Securing the future through research in the physical sciences and engineering

September 30, 2025

Majority Leader Chuck Schumer
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Minority Leader Mitch McConnell
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Speaker Mike Johnson
H-232, The Capitol
Washington, DC, 20515

Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries
2433 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Leaders of Congress,

As the end of the fiscal year approaches, the Task Force on American Innovation (TFAI) requests that you take all possible steps to avoid a government shutdown, which will be terribly disruptive to our nation's research enterprise. While we recognize that a short-term continuing resolution may be necessary to complete negotiations on the final Fiscal Year 2026 (FY26) funding bills, we request that you refrain from considering longer-term continuing resolutions. Finally, as Congress works to reach a final agreement on FY26 appropriations, TFAI urges you to prioritize investments in scientific research that support our national security and our global competitiveness. Sustained investments in fundamental research and research infrastructure must be included in any funding deal that emerges for FY26. History has shown that fundamental scientific research is one of the best investments Congress can make.

Our coalition of businesses, trade groups, scientific and engineering societies, and university organizations works to support federally funded fundamental research carried out throughout the U.S. research enterprise and in all 50 states. There is broad, bipartisan consensus that federal investments in innovation play an essential role in spurring economic growth, creating jobs, and ensuring national security. This funding is essential for maintaining the scientific leadership and technological superiority necessary to compete with China and other competitor nations.

We must continue to make these vital investments to ensure the U.S. remains at the forefront of discovery and innovation for generations to come. We look forward to working with you as we invest in the innovation that our economy demands and our country deserves.

Sincerely,

The Task Force on American Innovation