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T: 202/546-3300

1725 DeSales Street NW, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Washington, DC 20036

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Dear Members of Congress:

With the delivery of the President's budget on April 10, Congress will begin the process of allocating funds to all the areas in the Federal Budget. One of those areas is long-term research and development in the agencies that fund the backbone of the U.S. scientific enterprise: National Institutes of Health, National Science Foundation, Department of Energy, National Institute of Standards and Technology as well as parts of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the Department of Defense. There is a bipartisan agreement on the importance of federal funding of long-term scientific research. The President emphasized it in his State of the Union speech and Majority Leader Cantor emphasized it in a recent speech at the American Enterprise Institute. The agreement exists because of recognition that this sort of research fuels the innovation engine that is essential to our economy. The entire federal research, development and demonstration enterprise amounts today to about one percent of our Gross Domestic Product and has steadily fallen over the years, while our rivals in Europe and Asia invest more.

We Nobel Laureates are likely to do well in competition for a reduced level of funding. Our concern is for the younger generation who will be behind the innovations and earn the Prizes of the future. We urge you, even in these financially troubled times, to keep the budgets of the agencies that support science at a level that will keep the pipelines full of the younger generation upon whom our economic vitality will rest in future years.

Respectfully,

**Dr. Burton Richter**  
Stanford Linear Accelerator  
Center  
1976 Nobel Prize in physics

**Dr. Peter Agre**  
Johns Hopkins Bloomberg  
School of Public Health  
2003 Nobel Prize in chemistry

**Dr. Sidney Altman**  
Yale University  
1989 Nobel Prize in chemistry

**Dr. Kenneth J. Arrow**  
Stanford University  
1972 Nobel Prize in economic  
science

**Dr. David Baltimore**  
California Institute of  
Technology  
1975 Nobel Prize in physiology  
or medicine

**Dr. Bruce Beutler**  
UT Southwestern Medical Center  
2011 Nobel Prize in physiology  
or medicine

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Kavli Institute for Cosmological Physics  
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Stanford University  
1996 Nobel Prize in physics

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Center  
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**Dr. Saul Perlmutter**  
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Berkeley and Lawrence Berkeley  
National Laboratory  
2011 Nobel Prize in physics

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Joint Quantum Institute  
1997 Nobel Prize in physics

**Dr. David Politzer**  
Caltech  
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Johns Hopkins University  
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2004 Nobel Prize in physics

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Bell Laboratories  
1978 Nobel Prize in physics