

AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR BIOCHEMISTRY AND MOLECULAR BIOLOGY

Office of Public Affairs

Rockville, MD 20852 Fax: 301.881.2080

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Contact: Benjamin Corb
240.283.6625 (office)
202.841.2701 (cell)
bcorb@asbmb.org

ASBMB APPLAUDS BIPARTISAN BUDGET DEAL, SEQUESTER AVOIDANCE

ROCKVILLE, MD - The American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (ASBMB), an organization representing more than 12,000 scientists nationwide, applauds the bipartisan efforts of Sen. Patty Murray and Rep. Paul Ryan to reach a budget deal which replaces the mandatory spending cuts known as sequester for the next two years.

“Tonight’s bipartisan budget announcement is an important first step toward slowing the damage the nation’s biomedical research enterprise has been enduring since sequester cuts began drastically cutting our national investment in basic science research,” said ASBMB spokesman Benjamin Corb. “We applaud the historic efforts of Sen. Murray and Rep. Ryan to negotiate a deal which provides significant sequester relief over the next two years, and begins to put in place the predictability and certainty in funding the scientific enterprise needs in order to continue to uncover the potentially lifesaving medical breakthroughs of tomorrow.”

ASBMB has been a leading voice to avoid cuts to nondefense discretionary spending. Earlier this year, ASBMB delivered to Congress a report titled “Unlimited Potential, Vanishing Opportunity.” The report detailed the findings of a survey of 3,700 scientists across the country and across scientific disciplines, and highlighted how budget cuts have slowed scientific innovation, and damaged American scientific competitiveness. ASBMB was also a lead sponsor in the NDD United report on sequester “Faces of Austerity” which highlights the personal stories of individuals affected by sequester across the nondefense discretionary portfolio.

Corb added, “We urge quick passage by Congress of this deal, and urge our nation’s leaders to build off of this agreement to identify a long-term balanced solution to our nation’s debt and deficit problems which includes a full repeal of sequester.”

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