June 18, 2026

Senator Susan Collins, Chair
Senator Patty Murray, Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Room S-128, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

Representative Tom Cole, Chairman
Representative Rosa DeLauro, Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
H-307 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairs Cole and Collins and Ranking Members DeLauro and Murray:

The undersigned not-for-profit scientific, medical, and scholarly societies write to express serious concern about proposed OMB regulations and provisions in the President's Budget Request that would prohibit or restrict the use of federal research grants to support high-quality, peer reviewed scientific publications. As community-led publishers of peer reviewed journals and books, we are deeply concerned these proposals would undermine the impact of federal research investments, weaken U.S. competitiveness, and threaten independent scientific inquiry and debate. We urge Congress to reject policies that would prohibit or condition the eligibility of publication costs for federally funded research.

Our organizations advance knowledge in service of the public good by reviewing and disseminating research driving discovery, innovation, and public benefit. Through our publishing programs, we uphold research integrity and enhance the impact of federally funded research through a validated and vetted research record. Any publishing revenue is reinvested into education, workforce development, standards setting, and other programs to advance the U.S. research enterprise. Society publishers also strengthen the marketplace of ideas by sustaining independent, mission-driven outlets for scientific exchange.

Publishing Drives the Impact of Federally Funded Research

Allowing publication costs as a standard component of research funding is essential to maximizing the return on federal research dollars. Research serves its public purpose only when results are reviewed, disseminated, and integrated into the scientific record, and publication costs – which are only about 1% of the overall research investment – support the necessary infrastructure and expert labor to make that possible. Peer reviewed scholarly communication is indispensable to scientific progress, economic growth, national security, and public benefit.

As Office of Science and Technology Policy Director Michael Kratsios noted in a June 23, 2025 memorandum, peer review is "critical for generating trustworthy new knowledge that minimizes bias, ensures methodological rigor, and upholds scientific standards through objective scrutiny." Publishers provide that scrutiny, along with editorial and ethical oversight, fraud and plagiarism detection, corrections, preservation, accessibility,

transparency, metadata, and the platforms necessary to allow researchers, educators, policymakers, and the public to reliably use the research record. These are not incidental services; they are essential components of the scientific enterprise.

Implications for U.S. Competitiveness and Global Innovation Leadership

U.S. leadership in science and technology depends not only on strong federal research funding, but also on a trusted, independent system for communicating results. Weakening publication infrastructure by limiting the ability of U.S. researchers to publish federally funded work would erode American competitiveness at a critical moment of global scientific and technological competition.

Threats to Scientific Inquiry, Integrity, and Independence

The proposed OMB regulation and the President's FY2027 Budget Request would bar payment for publication expenses while still expecting public access to research results. This creates a fundamental contradiction: researchers are expected to publish while being denied access to the systems to make publication possible. Proposals that condition publication cost allowability on agency approval also raise concerns about politicization, administrative burden, delay, and diminished trust in U.S. research.

Publishers make essential investments in research integrity and in maintaining a diverse, independent marketplace of ideas. A prohibition on publication expenses would weaken both, undermining confidence in the scientific record and the skeptical inquiry on which research depends.

Disproportionate Harm to Scientific Societies

Not-for-profit scientific and medical societies support high-quality publishing and reinvest publishing revenue directly into the research community and the next generation of innovators. Restrictions on publication cost recovery would disproportionately harm our mission-driven organizations, accelerate consolidation, and reduce independent alternatives in scientific publishing. Without the ability to recoup reasonable publication costs, societies would have fewer resources to support the communities and fields they serve.

Our Request

We respectfully urge Congress to consider language in Appropriations legislation that preserves researchers' ability to recover reasonable, grant-related publication expenses and rejects policies prohibiting or conditioning the eligibility of publication costs for federally funded research. We stand ready to work constructively with Congress to advance public access goals while protecting scientific integrity, economic competitiveness, and U.S. leadership in science.

Sincerely,

The Undersigned Societies

The following 163 scientific societies and associated journals have signed the attached letter about proposed Federal restrictions on subscriptions and publication charges:

1. Academic Committee of the Society of British Neurosurgeons
2. Academy of Medical-Surgical Nurses (AMSN)
3. Academy of Surgical Research
4. Acta Materialia
5. African Literature Association
6. AIP Publishing
7. Air & Waste Management Association
8. American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology
9. American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
10. American Academy of Neurology
11. American Academy of Orthotists & Prosthetists
12. American Academy of Pain Medicine
13. American Anthropological Association
14. American Art Therapy Association
15. American Association for Cancer Research
16. American Association for Dental, Oral, and Craniofacial Research
17. American Association for Pediatric Ophthalmology & Strabismus (AAPOS)
18. American Association for Public Opinion Research
19. American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases
20. American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy
21. American Association of Endodontists
22. American Association of Immunologists
23. American Association of Neurological Surgeons
24. American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons
25. American Association of Physicists in Medicine
26. American Association of Physics Teachers
27. American Astronomical Society
28. American Board of Precision Medicine
29. American College of Emergency Physicians
30. American College of Gastroenterology
31. American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics
32. American College of Obstetricians & Gynecologists
33. American College of Sports Medicine
34. American Gastroenterological Association
35. American Institute for Conservation
36. American Institute of Biological Sciences
37. American Mathematical Society
38. American Medical Association
39. American Medical Informatics Association (AMIA)
40. American Meteorological Society
41. American Nutrition Association
42. American Physical Society
43. American Physiological Society
44. American Phytopathological Society
45. American Podiatric Medical Association
46. American Psychiatric Association

47. American Psychological Association
48. American Society for Bone and Mineral Research
49. American Society for Clinical Pathology
50. American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy
51. American Society for Gravitational and Space Research
52. American Society for Investigative Pathobiology
53. American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery (ASMBS)
54. American Society for Microbiology
55. American Society for Nutrition
56. American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics (ASPET)
57. American Society of Agronomy
58. American Society of Anesthesiologists
59. American Society of Cataract & Refractive Surgery
60. American Society of Civil Engineers
61. American Society of Gene and Cell Therapy
62. American Society of Health-System Pharmacists
63. American Society of Hematology
64. American Society of Nephrology
65. American Society of Nuclear Cardiology
66. American Society of Transplant Surgeons
67. American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene (ASTMH)
68. American Thoracic Society
69. APTA Academy of Cardiovascular & Pulmonary Physical Therapy
70. Asia Pacific Tourism Association
71. ASME
72. Association for Applied Sport Psychology
73. Association for Clinical Oncology (ASCO)
74. Association for Diagnostics & Laboratory Medicine
75. Association for Language Learning / The Language Learning Journal
76. Association for Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy in the Public Sector (UK)
77. Association for Psychological Science
78. Association for Research in Post-Compulsory Education
79. Association for Teacher Education in Europe
80. Association of Learned and Professional Society Publishers (ALPSP)
81. Biochemical Society/Portland Press
82. Biophysical Society
83. Cereals & Grains Association
84. Child Care in Practice Journal
85. College of American Pathologists
86. Congress of Neurological Surgeons
87. Crop Science Society of America
88. Dystonia Medical Research Foundation
89. Ecological Society of America
90. Politics and the Life Sciences
91. EMBO Press
92. Entomological Society of America
93. Epigenetics Society
94. European Alliance of Associations for Rheumatology (EULAR)
95. European Society for Environmental and Occupational Medicine (EOM)
96. European Society for Evolutionary Biology
97. Heart Failure Society of America
98. IEEE Publications

99. International Association for Dental, Oral, and Craniofacial Research
100. International Epidemiological Association
101. International Federation for the Surgery and Other Therapies for Obesity (IFSO)
102. International Skeletal Society
103. International Society for Cell & Gene Therapy
104. International Society for Clinical Densitometry (ISCD)
105. International Society for Third Sector Research
106. International Society of Sports Nutrition
107. International Society of Travel Medicine
108. International Test Commission
109. IOP Publishing
110. Jacobs Institute of Women's Health
111. Japanese Society of Soil Science and Plant Nutrition
112. Journal of Cataract & Refractive Surgery
113. Journal of CME
European CME Forum
114. Journal of Soil and Water Conservation
115. Massachusetts Medical Society, publisher of the *New England Journal of Medicine*
116. Mathematical Association of America
117. Microbiology Society
118. National Association for Bilingual Education
119. National Dance Education Organization
120. National Register of Health Service Psychologists
121. Nature Health Global
122. North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition
123. Operational Research Society
124. Optica
125. PCE World - World Association for Person-Centered & Experiential Psychotherapy & Counseling
126. Philosophy of Science Association
127. Radcliffe Cardiology
128. Remote Sensing and Photogrammetry Society
129. Royal Microscopical Society
130. Society for American Archaeology
131. Society for Applied Anthropology
132. Society for Cardiovascular Angiography and Interventions
133. Society for Experimental Biology
134. Society for Investigative Dermatology
135. Society for Molecular Biology and Evolution
136. Society for Range Management
137. Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD)
138. Society for the History of Alchemy and Chemistry
139. Society of Behavioral Medicine
140. Society of Critical Care Medicine
141. Society of Senior Ford Fellows
142. Society of Toxicology
143. Software & Information Industry Association (SIIA)
144. Soil Science Society of America
145. The American Burn Association
146. The American Society for Dermatologic Surgery
147. The Combustion Institute
148. The Folklore Society
149. The Institute of Industrial and Systems Engineers
150. The London Mathematical Society

151. The Midwest Sociological Society
152. The Minerals, Metals & Materials Society
153. The Palaeontological Association
154. The Physiological Society
155. The Potato Association of America
156. The Safety and Reliability Society
157. The Society for the Study of Evolution
158. The Society of Thoracic Surgeons
159. The Voice Foundation
160. United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology
161. Voice and Speech Review
162. Wasafiri
163. Wilson Ornithological Society