



August 10, 2026

The Honorable John Thune
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
Minority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

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Dear Leader Thune and Leader Schumer,

On behalf of the [Research!America](#) Board and our more than 300 member organizations across the nation, thank you for your leadership in securing Senate passage of the bipartisan Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act, 2027. This measure is an important step toward averting a government shutdown that could slow the pace of discovery, disrupt progress toward medical breakthroughs, and delay answers for patients and families across the country.

We are especially grateful that the Senate-passed measure includes Section 157, which would prevent OMB's proposed federal grant rule from being finalized or taking effect through December 11. Given the proposal's far-reaching implications for scientific peer review, ongoing research, clinical trials, and congressional funding authority, we hope this pause leads OMB to withdraw the proposal and work with Congress and affected stakeholders on a more targeted approach to strengthening transparency, accountability, and oversight of taxpayer-funded grants.

As negotiations continue with the House, we urge you to preserve Section 157 in the final continuing resolution. We also ask that you continue working with appropriations leaders to complete the Fiscal Year 2027 funding process before the CR expires and provide robust funding for the National Institutes of Health and other federal research and public health agencies.

Thank you for working across the aisle to move the appropriations process forward. We are also grateful to your staff members for their hard work and dedication throughout this process.

With appreciation and continued partnership,

Russ Paulsen
President & CEO
Research!America