

February 17, 2021

The Honorable Eddie Bernice Johnson
Chairwoman
House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology
2321 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Frank Lucas
Ranking Member
House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology
2321 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Johnson and Ranking Member Lucas:

The American Physiological Society (APS) is pleased to endorse the Combating Sexual Harassment in STEM Act. The landmark report from the National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine (NASEM) highlighted the persistent and pervasive issue of sexual harassment in academic science and offered a number of approaches to begin to address it. Tackling the problem of sexual harassment in the sciences will require the committed efforts of all stakeholders, including the federal agencies that fund U.S. research. This legislation represents an opportunity to begin to make progress toward addressing sexual harassment by initiating a program of research into sexual harassment, increasing relevant data collection, convening an interagency working group to examine policies and authorizing much needed resources.

APS is committed to fostering a diverse and inclusive scientific workforce encompassing the best and brightest minds from around the world. To ensure that all members can participate fully in the Society's activities without threat of harassment, APS has developed a comprehensive set of policies to address member conduct and continues to seek ways to improve culture within research environments.

Sincerely,



Linda C. Samuelson, PhD
President



Scott Steen, CAE, FAESE
Executive Director

Physiology is a broad area of scientific inquiry that focuses on how molecules, cells, tissues and organs function in health and disease. The American Physiological Society connects a global, multidisciplinary community of more than 10,000 biomedical scientists and educators as part of its mission to advance scientific discovery, understand life and improve health. The Society drives collaboration and spotlights scientific discoveries through its 16 scholarly journals and programming that support researchers and educators in their work.