



Research Investment to Spark the Economy (RISE) Act

In February of 2021, the Research Investment to Spark the Economy (RISE) Act (S. 289/H.R. 869) was introduced in the U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives. The legislation recommends Congress appropriate nearly \$25 billion across federal science agencies to address project disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The RISE Act permits these funds to be used to extend research awards, replace equipment, create new research opportunities for graduate students and post-doctoral researchers, and support research on pandemic preparedness, among other purposes. In September 2020, the RISE Act was marked up and approved by the Senate Commerce Committee.

AAOS is particularly supportive of the \$10 billion that would be directed to the National Institutes of Health, which houses the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (NIAMS), and the \$3 billion that would be directed to the Department of Defense, which houses the Peer-Reviewed Orthopaedic Research Program (PRORP).

Specifically, this legislation recommends the following funding:

- \$10 billion to the National Institutes of Health
- \$5 billion to the Department of Energy
- \$3 billion each to the Department of Defense and the National Science Foundation
- \$2 billion to NASA
- \$450 million to Department of Commerce
- \$300 million each to the U.S. Geological Survey and Department of Transportation
- \$200 million each to the Environmental Protection Agency and Department of Education

Why This Legislation Matters:

Although coronavirus-related research is a current federal government priority, most other research has been delayed due to closures of campuses and laboratories. Thousands of researchers – including graduate students, postdoctoral researchers and technical support staff – find themselves at risk of losing their jobs and their work – as universities and independent research institutions look to cut costs as a result of the ongoing pandemic. We must continue to prioritize our American researchers, the brain-trust of this country, to find the next big cure, the next breakthrough discovery, and the next lifesaving treatment.

The AAOS believes scientific research, like the critical research done at NIAMS and through PRORP, must be a top priority for funding in the 117th Congress. To continue improving patient outcomes and the overall quality of musculoskeletal care we must invest in our medical researchers and their work.

AAOS Recommends:

Support crucial research by cosponsoring the Research Investment to Spark the Economy (RISE) Act (S. 289/H.R. 869)