



Orange County Section
American Chemical Society

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Congressional Support for Chemistry in COVID-19 Stimulus Packages

ACS is committed to helping combat the global COVID-19 pandemic and help facilitate recovery from its devastating impacts. To this end, ACS staff continue to work with members of Congress to raise awareness of the various challenges affecting members of the chemistry enterprise, including chemists, chemical engineers, students, and teachers. Recently, the ACS sent a letter to Congressional leaders highlighting the impact of COVID-19 on the U.S. scientific research enterprise. The ACS offers six areas of importance for consideration as Congress drafts additional stimulus packages to help U.S. communities recover from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic in the United States. The six areas are:

1. Codification by Congress of federal grant guidelines issued by the Office of Management and Budget;
2. Boost investment in research grants at a broad range of agencies including National Institutes of Health, National Science Foundation, Department of Energy Office of Science, National Institute of Standards and Technology, and others;
3. Support for students and teachers adapting to online and distance learning by enhancing support for programs authorized under Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA);
4. Further expansion and funding of the Small Business Administration (SBA) loan program;
5. Long-term extension of the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards (CFATS) for at least one year;
6. Passage of the Sustainable Chemistry Research and Development Act, H.R. 2051/ S. 999.

The ACS asks that members e-mail their members of Congress with this information and request they consider including these priorities in future COVID-19 stimulus packages. Details on how to do this can be found at: <https://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/policy/memberadvocacy/advocacy-tools/how-to-email-elected-officials.html>

Additionally, the ACS encourages members to share stories of how they or their work has been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. To share these stories or ask questions, please email them to: act4chemistry@acs.org.