



EMORY
UNIVERSITY



August 5, 2021

The Honorable Jon Ossoff
United States Senate
455 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Ossoff:

As the Senate begins consideration of a reconciliation bill, we at Emory University and the Georgia Institute of Technology are acutely aware of the opportunities for bolstering key domestic priorities. Specifically, as the presidents of two of Georgia's top research universities, we strongly support provisions that double the Federal Pell Grant and increase funding for scientific and biomedical research. In particular, the reconciliation bill would bring the United States' investments in research closer to the nation's historical norm and more competitive with other industrialized countries.

We understand that language in support of Pell Grant funding is included in the budget reconciliation instructions. And we support the endorsement of this critical financial aid program for eligible students in Georgia. Furthermore, we ask that the funding be included at a level that allows for doubling of the annual maximum Pell Grant to eligible students. Since students from the lowest-income families will benefit the most from doubling the maximum Pell Grant, the increased funding will help all the universities in our state continue to address student access, affordability, and equity.

Our understanding of the bill is that it has limited research funding increases. We strongly support a set of instructions to the authorizing committees that direct a robust funding infusion to the federal agencies that fund scientific and biomedical research at levels proposed by the President. For example, the administration proposed \$51.953 billion for the National Institutes of Health in FY 2022 (a \$9.017 billion or 21% increase over the FY 2021 level) and \$10.2 billion for the National Science Foundation (a \$1.713 billion or 20% increase over the FY 2021 level).

Life-saving technologies, economic growth, and enhanced national security are directly attributable to the 75-year-old federal government-research university partnership, in addition to supporting the creation of high-wage jobs and a talented workforce for years to come. This is a top priority for Emory, Georgia Tech, and all of Georgia's research universities.

For all the above reasons, we hope it is a top priority for you.

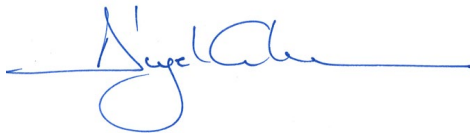
The Honorable Jon Ossoff
August 5, 2021
Page 2

Thank you for your advocacy on behalf of Georgia's research universities and our students. We are available for any questions you or your staff may have about these requests for the reconciliation bill. Our government relations representatives will follow up with your staff as this process advances.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Greg Fenves", written in a cursive style.

Gregory L. Fenves
President
Emory University

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ángel Cabrera", written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Ángel Cabrera
President
Georgia Institute of Technology