Open Access to Federally Funded Research
Increasing Innovation and Improving Education

We urge you to support and co-sponsor:
H.R. 708 - Fair Access to Science and Technology Research Act (FASTR) [bipartisan]
S. 350 - Fair Access to Science and Technology Research Act (FASTR) [bipartisan]

A Win for American Students, Taxpayers and Small Businesses

• Small Businesses: Removes the cost barrier that prevents small businesses from incorporating the latest research into their innovation

• Students: Provides access to cutting-edge research necessary for a complete, up-to-date education, spurring new opportunities to increase the return on federal research investments

• Citizens: Maximizes taxpayers’ return on investment in publicly funded research and provides every taxpayer with access to the research they paid for

• Accountable Government: Allows transparent review of how government money is used

Proven Track Record of Success: The NIH Public Access Program

The NIH public access policy currently requires peer-reviewed papers developed from NIH-funded projects be submitted to NIH’s public PubMed Central (PMC) database one year after publication [1].

Every weekday more than 700,000 users access PMC. The NIH estimates that only 25% of these users are from universities--40% are from the general public and 17% are from industry [1].

Not Harmful to Publishers

No publisher has shown demonstrable harm from the NIH Public Access Policy, which has been in effect for more than 4 years. In fact, growth in the medical journal market—the one most affected by the NIH policy—is forecast to be 6.3% in 2014 [2].

700,000
users access publicly funded research on the NIH PubMed Central every weekday [1]

57%
share of PubMed users from the general public and industry [1]

Open access policies are now implemented or being developed in Britain, The European Union, and at The World Bank.
Retaining America’s Intellectual Capital

References

[1] The NIH Open Access Policy Overview and Impact:

Links and Resources

Public comments submitted to the Office of Science and Technology Policy regarding Open Access
   http://www.whitehouse.gov/administration/eop/ostp/library/publicaccess

Legislation

H.R. 708 - Fair Access to Science and Technology Research Act (FASTR)
(Sponsors: Doyle [D-PA14], Lofgren [D-CA19], Yoder [R-KS3]; Status: Referred to House Oversight and Government Reform Committee)

S. 350 - Fair Access to Science and Technology Research Act (FASTR) (Sponsors: Cornyn [R-TX] and Wyden [D-OR]; Status: Referred to Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs)