Open Access to Federally Funded Research
Increasing Innovation and Improving Education

We urge you to support and co-sponsor:

- H.R. 3427 - Fair Access to Science and Technology Research Act (FASTR) [bipartisan]
- S. 1701 - Fair Access to Science and Technology Research Act [bipartisan]

OPEN ACCESS
A Win for American Students,
Taxpayers and Small Business

- **Small Business**: Removes the cost barrier that prevents small businesses from incorporating the latest research into their innovation
- **Students**: Provides access to cutting-edge research and reduces the cost burden for continuing education
- **Citizens**: Maximizes taxpayers’ return on investment in publicly funded research and provides every taxpayer with access to research they have paid for
- **Accountable Government**: Allows transparent review of how federal dollars are 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 to be submitted to NIH’s public PubMed Central (PMC) database within 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].

Support from Publishers

At least 50 major publishers, including the Nature Publishing Group and the American Institute of Physics, have pledged to support access models that maximize “dissemination of and access to the content” they publish [2]. Growth in the medical journal market -- the one most affected by the NIH policy -- is forecast to be 4.0% annually from 2015-2017 [3].

700,000 users access PubMed every weekday [1]
57% of PubMed users are from the general public and industry [1]
900,000 research articles reporting taxpayer funded research supported by the NIH[1]
23% increase in the cost of health science journals between 2007-2011 [1]
Improving Education Resources
Support Affordable Textbooks

We urge you to support and co-sponsor:

H.R. 3840 - Affordable College Textbook Act
S. 1864 - Affordable College Textbook Act

OPEN Educational Resources (OER)
are Fiscally Responsible

• The rising cost of college textbooks places an unnecessary burden on all students. The Government Accountability Office (GAO) found that college textbook prices increased 82% between 2002 and 2012 [4].

• Considering recent technological advancements, textbook prices should be decreasing, not increasing.

• Open Educational Resources (OER) are digital textbooks and other materials licensed for free.

• Expanding the creation and use of OER can reduce the burden of textbook costs and make higher education more affordable

References

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

http://www.stm-assoc.org/publishers-support-sustainable-open-access/


http://openedgroup.org/review

Resources

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

Memo submitted by the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy to agency and executive department heads
http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/microsites/ostp/ostp_public_access_memo_2013.pdf

82% increase in textbook prices between 2002-2012 [4]


93% of students who use OER perform as well or better academically than students using traditional materials [5]