

April 27, 2015

The Honorable Jim Cooper
United States House of Representatives
1536 Longworth
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Cooper,

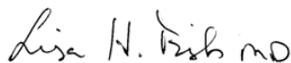
The Endocrine Society would like to thank you for reintroducing the Research for All Act. The Endocrine Society applauds the recognition in the bill that sex is a critical biological variable that should be appropriately included in the design and reporting of basic and clinical research results.

Founded in 1916, the Endocrine Society is the world's oldest, largest, and most active organization devoted to research on hormones and the clinical practice of endocrinology. The Society's membership of over 18,000 includes many basic and clinical researchers dedicated to curing disease through biomedical research. We are grateful for your support for the NIH and FDA, and for your appreciation of the critical role of sex differences in preclinical research and clinical trials. The Society acknowledges that more work needs to be done to include women in clinical trials and to investigate sex specific effects in basic research. The consequences of inaction are striking; for example, of the 10 drugs that were withdrawn from the US market from January 1, 1997 through 2001, 8 posed greater health risks for women. This demonstrates a critical flaw in the drug pipeline that has disproportionate consequences for women. We anticipate that the Research for All Act will help address this flaw.

Furthermore, a significant component of rigor and completeness in research is the investigation of sex specific effects. Unless information on sex differences in animal research and cellular models is considered as part of the experimental design of basic research, and reported in resulting publications, clinical trials could be designed based on fundamentally flawed data. The Society therefore believes that careful consideration of sex differences in all phases of the research enterprise is necessary to improve the health of women and men, and also to maximize the return on taxpayers' investment in biomedical research

The Endocrine Society is most appreciative of your continued leadership in championing equity in biomedical research, and we are pleased to endorse the Research for All Act. We would be happy to work with you as the Research for All Act develops, and in other efforts to support biomedical research and the public's health. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us at any time by contacting Mila Becker, Senior Director of Advocacy & Policy Programs at mbecker@endocrine.org.

Sincerely,



Lisa Fish, MD
President
Endocrine Society