

# THE NEW ENGLAND COUNCIL

September 18, 2025

The Honorable Susan Collins  
U.S. Senate Appropriations Committee  
304 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20002

The Honorable Patty Murray  
U.S. Senate Appropriations Committee  
304 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20002

The Honorable Tom Cole  
U.S. House Appropriations Committee  
H-307 The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
U.S. House Appropriations Committee  
H-307 The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair Collins, Ranking Member Murray, Chair Cole, and Ranking Member DeLauro,

On behalf of the members of the New England Council, I write to thank you for your recent support of federal research funding and strongly urge you to maintain critical funding support for federal research and development (R&D) programs across all agencies for the 2026 fiscal year. We are proud to count among our members dozens of educational and health institutions who are collectively the recipients of billions of dollars in federal research funding from agencies including the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the National Science Foundation (NSF), and other federal agencies including the Departments of Health & Human Services (HHS), Defense (DOD), Energy (DOE), and Agriculture (USDA). This funding drives innovation, creates jobs, spurs economic activity, and perhaps most importantly, leads to incredible new treatments and technologies that have an impact not just in our region, but indeed across the country and around the globe. As such, we are gravely concerned that cuts and caps to federal research funding will not only have a devastating impact on some of the incredible innovation underway here in New England, but will also have much more far-reaching impact on the region's economic wellbeing.

New England is known as a global health innovation hub, where our academic and medical institutions are leading the way in developing treatments and cures for some of the most pressing health challenges, and indeed saving countless lives. Collectively, the six New England states receive over \$5 billion in NIH funding annually. Beyond the impact on patients, the economic impact of NIH funding here in the New England region cannot be overstated. In total, our region received **\$4.8286 billion** in NIH Awards in FY2023, which supported **40,291 jobs** and **\$10.652 billion in economic activity**.<sup>1</sup>

State	NIH Awards FY23	Jobs Created	Economic Activity Supported
Connecticut	\$770 million	6,609	\$1.68 billion
Maine	\$116 million	1, 470	\$262 million
Massachusetts	\$3.5 billion	28,842	\$7.78 billion
New Hampshire	\$128 million	1,158	\$301 million
Rhode Island	\$256 million	2, 212	\$502 million

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.unitedformedicalresearch.org/nih-in-your-state/>

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Vermont	\$58.6 million	575	\$127 million
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4.8286 billion</b>	<b>40,291</b>	<b>\$10,652 billion</b>

There are many examples of the global impact of research conducted in New England. For example, the research that led to the development of GLP1 medications that are revolutionizing the treatment of diseases like type 2 diabetes and obesity around the world took place right here in New England with the support of NIH funding. Other examples of research conducted in New England include the development of the bionic pancreas—a wearable, pocket-sized, automated insulin delivery device; Lyme Disease research and innovation; research related to HIV; life-saving findings in cardiovascular health; and many more discoveries made possible with funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH.)

The New England region was also the recipient of some \$766 million in NSF funding in FY2024. NSF funding to the region has supported research on a wide array of critical issues, including artificial intelligence, quantum computing, deep sea exploration, medical devices, and electric vehicles, just to name a few.

State	Number of New NSF Awards FY24	Total Awards
Connecticut	126	\$68,206,000
Massachusetts	674	\$553,534,000
Maine	51	\$32,726,000
New Hampshire	51	\$33,057,000
Rhode Island	148	\$57,350,000
Vermont	33	\$21,225,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,083</b>	<b>\$766,098,000</b>

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Beyond funding levels, the Council also supports protections for long-term R&D capacity and American innovation by maintaining provisions allowing recipients of federal research funds to include necessary facilities and administrative costs (F&A) through negotiations between awarding agencies and research entities. We encourage both the House and Senate to include language preventing any deviation from the F&A rate negotiated by the federal government and research entities in FY26 while we work together to develop a new model to increase transparency and accountability and better cover the essential costs of conducting research on behalf of the federal government. These facility and administrative costs very directly impact the day-to-day operations of the research being conducted and cannot be uncoupled with the direct costs of funding research.

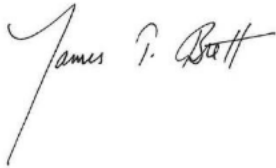
For New England’s innovation economy to continue to grow and thrive, The New England Council supports advancements in federal policies that will support U.S. innovation and global competitiveness. Therefore, we respectfully encourage you to maintain critical funding support for federal research and development (R&D) programs across all agencies for the 2026 fiscal year. In doing so, you will help secure New England and the Nation’s global leadership in innovation and its economic and national security

<sup>2</sup>[https://tableau.external.nsf.gov/views/NSFbyNumbers/NumbersbyState?%3AisGuestRedirectFromVizportal=y&%3Aembed=y&%3Alinktarget=\\_blank&%3Atoolbar=top](https://tableau.external.nsf.gov/views/NSFbyNumbers/NumbersbyState?%3AisGuestRedirectFromVizportal=y&%3Aembed=y&%3Alinktarget=_blank&%3Atoolbar=top)

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future. We thank you for your attention to this letter. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mariah Healy, Director of Federal Affairs, at [mhealy@newenglandcouncil.com](mailto:mhealy@newenglandcouncil.com).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "James T. Brett". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "James" being the most prominent.

James T. Brett

President & CEO

CC: U.S. Senator Jack Reed  
U.S. Senator Jeanne Shaheen  
U.S. Senator Chris Murphy  
U.S. Representative Chellie Pingree