



American
Physiological
Society

Empowering discovery to improve health

6120 Executive Blvd., Suite 600 • Rockville, Maryland 20852-4911 USA • T: 301.634.7164 • F: 301.634.7241 • webmaster@the-aps.org • the-aps.org

February 25, 2019

The Honorable Eddie Bernice Johnson
Chairwoman
House Committee on Science, Space, and
Technology
2321 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Frank Lucas
Ranking Member
House Committee on Science, Space, and
Technology
2321 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Johnson and Ranking Member Lucas:

The American Physiological Society (APS) is pleased to endorse H.R. 36, the *Combating Sexual Harassment in Science Act of 2019*.

Last year's landmark report from the National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine (NASEM) highlighted the persistent and pervasive issue of sexual harassment in academic science and offered a number of approaches to begin to address it. Tackling the problem of sexual harassment in the sciences will require the committed efforts of all stakeholders, including the federal agencies that fund U.S. research. H.R. 36 represents an opportunity to begin to make progress toward addressing sexual harassment by initiating a program of research into sexual harassment, increasing relevant data collection, convening an interagency working group to examine policies and authorizing much needed resources.

The APS is a nonprofit devoted to fostering education, scientific research and dissemination of information in the physiological sciences. The Society was founded in 1887 with 28 members and now has over 10,000 members, most of whom hold doctoral degrees in physiology, medicine and/or other health professions. The APS is committed to fostering a diverse and inclusive scientific workforce encompassing the best and brightest minds from around the world. To ensure that all members can participate fully in the Society's activities without threat of harassment, APS is working to develop a comprehensive set of policies to address member conduct.

Sincerely,

Jeff M. Sands, MD
President