National NDD Day of Action!

The federal government supports many programs that benefit all Americans, scientific research; public health; education and job training; public safety and law enforcement; weather monitoring; housing and social services; and international relations. In Washington, these programs are collectively referred to as "nondefense discretionary" or simply "NDD" programs. On March 1, 2013 these programs will face devastating, across-the-board cuts of 5.1% through an arcane budget tool known as "sequestration" unless Congress works together to prevent these cuts through a bipartisan, balanced approach to deficit reduction.

On **February 14th** please join us in a "National NDD Day of Action" and ask your member of Congress to support a **balanced approach** to deficit reduction that does not include further cuts to NDD programs, including science, technology and research.

Email, Call, Tweet, or Facebook your Members of Congress on, February 14th to let them know that NDD programs, including scientific research, have already done their part to help reduce the deficit! **Sample Facebook posts, Tweets, emails and information about how to contact your Members of Congress can be found below to help you advocate to protect scientific research from further cuts!**

Suggested Talking Points (For use on Facebook, emails and calls to congressional offices)

- □ There is bipartisan agreement that these cuts would be devastating to the nation.
- □ Only through a balanced approach can we avoid sequestration, balance the budget and restore the nation's economic stability.
- □ I ask that you work with your colleagues to find a bipartisan, balanced approach to deficit reduction that does not include further cuts to essential science, technology and research programs.

For a complete list of members and their twitter handles as well as other social media accounts, please see these <u>House</u> & <u>Senate</u> lists.

If you are new to Twitter, this great <u>Twitter 101 Guide</u> from the folks at Half in Ten/Center for American Progress is recommended.

Make sure you include the Twitter handle of the member you are tweeting in your message. This ensures that the member will get a notification of being "mentioned" in your message and will see what you've sent. Please use the hashtag **#NoMoreCuts**. Remember, these tweets are a great alternative way of getting our message out to policy makers.

Included below are sample tweets for your use:

<u>Template</u>

• We need to invest in education, research and development [*insert member twitter handle*]. #NoMoreCuts to these vital areas!

Sample

• We need to invest in education, research and development @MaxBaucus. #NoMoreCuts to these vital areas!

Template

• Discretionary investments have already been cut by nearly \$1.5 trillion. [*insert member twitter handle*] make sure there are #NoMoreCuts! #sequester

Sample

• Discretionary investments have already been cut by nearly \$1.5 trillion. @MaxBaucus make sure there are #NoMoreCuts! #sequester

Template (links to NDD national sign-on letter)

• Remember [*insert member twitter handle*], over 3200 groups want you to say #NoMoreCuts to discretionary investments! <u>http://bit.ly/11Bzdot</u> #sequester

<u>Sample</u>

Remember @MaxBaucus, over 3200 groups want you to say #NoMoreCuts to discretionary investments!
<u>http://bit.ly/11Bzdot</u> #sequester

Template (link to ASA, CSSA, SSSA petition on sequestration)

• Over 1,300 scientists, students and professionals agree. #NoMoreCuts to science funding [*insert Member Twitter handle*]! http://bit.ly/TJKBSF

<u>Sample</u>

 Over 1,300 scientists, students and professionals agree. #NoMoreCuts to science funding @MaxBaucus! http://bit.ly/TJKBSF

Template

• #Sequestration means an 5.1% cut to #[*insert issue area of concern*] funding in 2013. [*insert member twitter handle*] make sure there are #NoMoreCuts! <u>http://bit.ly/11Bzd0t</u>

Sample

 #Sequestration means an 5.1% cut to #research funding in 2013. @MaxBaucus make sure there are #NoMoreCuts! <u>http://bit.ly/11Bzd0t</u>

Template

• National #security means investing in#[insert issue area of concern]. [insert member twitter handle] make sure there are #NoMoreCuts!

Sample

• National #security means investing in research, public health, & infrastructure. @MaxBaucus make sure there are #NoMoreCuts!

<u>Template</u>

• A secure #America needs more than #military might! [*insert member twitter handle*] make sure there are #NoMoreCuts to #[*insert issue area of concern*]! #sequester

Sample

• A secure #America needs more than #military might! @MaxBaucus make sure there are #NoMoreCuts to #education! #sequester