

November 23, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Minority Leader
United States House of Representatives

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Minority Leader
United States Senate

December 11. At the same time, we call on Congress to negotiate and pass additional long overdue emergency supplemental funding. This is essential to our ongoing response to and recovery from the current public health crisis.

Advancing the microbial sciences requires robust and sustained investments in basic and applied research across multiple agencies. Failure to complete work on the appropriations bills in a timely manner impedes our ability to address societal challenges such as combatting infectious disease, boosting food production and safety, and developing clean energy alternatives through innovative use of microbes. As we continue to grapple with the COVID-19 pandemic, federal science and public health agencies need certainty—scientific progress is put at risk by disruptive, long-term CRs that prevent new programming and long-term planning.

ASM is a global society dedicated to the advancement of the microbial sciences. In addition to negotiating and passing FY 2021 appropriations bills with meaningful

federal science agencies, ASM calls on Congress to include the following emergency supplemental provisions in an end-of-year omnibus package:

- **At least \$26 billion in funding across federal science agencies to provide relief for research disrupted by the pandemic.**

