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The American Society for Pharmacology & Experimental Therapeutics (ASPET)

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Rockville, MD - The American Society for Pharmacology & Experimental Therapeutics (ASPET) issued the following statement on its endorsement of [H.R. 2695, The Combating Sexual Harassment in Science Act](#):

A 2018 study by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that sexual harassment is still an ongoing problem in the STEM fields. 50% of female STEM faculty members and 20-50% of female STEM students reported being harassed in the workplace. Persistent sexual harassment leads to women passing up promotions and leadership opportunities to avoid harassers, leaving their institutions, or leaving the scientific workforce altogether. The resulting loss of talent is both costly and perpetuates a gender gap that prevents our country from unlocking the full potential of its scientific workforce.

ASPET recognizes that harassment in the workplace is an obstacle to fostering a diverse and inclusive scientific workforce and supports the efforts of Congress to address this issue. The Combatting Sexual Harassment in Science Act bill would provide much needed resources for research that will help explain the causes and impact of sexual harassment. It will also direct agencies to review and update current policies to promote safe and inclusive working environments.

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. ASPET looks forward to working with Congress to ensure passage of this important bill.

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The American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics (ASPET) is a 4,000 member scientific society whose members conduct basic and clinical pharmacological research and work for academia, government, large pharmaceutical companies, small biotech companies, and non-profit organizations.