

Subject: Research Works Act (HR 3699)

Date: January 11, 2012 1:07:11 PM EST

To: publicaccess@ostp.gov

Dear Sir or Madame,

As a young scientist whom has been pursuing health-related research (cancer, now cardiovascular disease) for over a decade, I implore you to resist publisher's claims and develop policies whereby research communities and the public at large get increased, free access to peer-reviewed publications that are the result of federally-funded research. We as tax payers have already paid for the research, the idea that we need to pay to see the results if patently ridiculous. Furthermore, labs around the country spend their precious research dollars gaining access to these journals and their articles when the federal grants should be going to bench work, not to journals to distribute information that should already be freely available. Smaller libraries at second and third tier research universities often can't even access many of these journals and they have to pick and choose their subscriptions carefully. If the government wants to charge people to see the results of their tax-funded research, then fine-at least let the government take the money and funnel it back into research rather than let greedy publishers get it for the nominal service they provide. After all, citizens have already paid for the research through their taxes, so why should access to the results be a money making endeavor by another party that has contributes nothing to the cost or the research?

If you as a congress person wish for the U.S. to retain its position in science and math and remain competitive in global markets and healthcare, then give researchers, students, teachers, physicians, nurses, libraries and citizens the means, which OPEN ACCESS provides, to educate and inform themselves.

Sincerely,

Joshua Wythe

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