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**AIRI Advocacy Office**

Lewis-Burke Associates, LLC  
440 1st St, NW, Suite 700  
Washington, DC 20001  
202-289-7475; airi@lewis-burke.com

**AIRI Management Office**

**David A. Issing**  
Executive Director  
DAI Management, Inc.  
P.O. Box 844, Westminster, MD 21158  
410-596-0451; davidissing@airi.org

## AIRI Board of Directors Issue Statement to Formally Endorse the Financial Accountability in Research Model (FAIR) for Federal Research Funding

October 7, 2025

The Board of Directors of the Association of Independent Research Institutes (AIRI) formally endorses the Financial Accountability in Research (FAIR) model advanced by the Joint Associations Group (JAG). As an active partner of the JAG, AIRI recognizes the importance of establishing practical cost policies and securing adequate support for research costs, which are essential to sustaining the nation's critical research infrastructure.

The FAIR model does an excellent job of accounting for the real costs of research for every type of research institution through transparency and accountability. Without equitable reimbursement for all research costs, research institutions would be forced to close laboratories, lay off staff, stop clinical trials, and pause research programs. For our member institutions with limited alternative funding sources, these costs provide essential support for research infrastructure and operations, such as the maintenance of state-of-the-art laboratories and high-tech facilities, data processing and storage, energy and utility expenses, security for dangerous chemicals and microbes, and the administration of a grant throughout its lifecycle. The FAIR model provides greater visibility to these research costs and provides stakeholders with a clearer understanding of what is driving those costs.

The AIRI Board endorses the FAIR model as the new approach to supporting research to ensure America's leadership in science and innovation. We urge Congress to adapt the FAIR model into legislation and continue to reinforce our nation's ability to produce cutting-edge research that saves lives and advances public health.