

August 29, 2003

The Honorable Bill Frist
United States Senate
461 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-4205

Dear Senator Frist:

The undersigned organizations strongly urge you to vote in support of the Specter/Harkin/Feinstein amendment to S.1356 to increase by \$1.5 billion the funds to be appropriated for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in FY 2004.

On behalf of millions of Americans who today are living longer and more productive lives as a result of past investments in medical research, we extend our sincere gratitude for the support Congress has afforded NIH. They are living testaments that medical research means less pain and suffering and an improved quality of life. For society as a whole, the fruits of medical research have helped lessen the burden of health care costs and fuel economic growth, increased productivity, and job creation.

But with only minimal budget increases proposed for fiscal year 2004 – less than 4 percent under S. 1356, as reported by the Appropriations Committee and even less under the House-passed bill – ongoing research will be stalled and pathways of discovery will not be explored. At a time when the nation is confronted with serious health challenges ranging from chronic diseases like cancer, heart disease, diabetes and Alzheimer's, to West Nile virus, SARS and the ever-present threat of bioterrorism, we cannot afford to lessen our commitment to medical research.

The Specter-Harkin-Feinstein amendment provides a 9.2 percent increase over the FY 2003 appropriation for NIH, enough to support ongoing research into the underlying cause of disease; translate new knowledge into life-saving treatments; and seek solutions to new and emerging threats to America's health.

Given what is at stake, we strongly urge you to vote in support of the Specter-Harkin-Feinstein amendment to the FY 2004 Labor-HHS-Education appropriations bill.

Sincerely,

AAALAC International
AARP
Academic Health Centers' Clinical Research Forum
Academy of Radiology Research
AcademyHealth
Acadia Pharmaceuticals
Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research Funding
Administrators of Internal Medicine
Advanced Medical Technology Association
Advancement of Social Work Research
Albert Einstein College of Medicine
Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine
Alliance for Aging Research

Alliance for Lupus Research
Alliance for Prostate Cancer Prevention
Alpha-1 Association
Alpha-1 Foundation
Alzheimer's Association
Ambulatory Pediatric Association
America's Blood Centers
American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry
American Academy of Dermatology Association
American Academy of Family Physicians
American Academy of Neurology
American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons
American Academy of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery
American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry
American Academy of Pediatrics
American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
American Association for Cancer Research
American Association for Dental Research
American Association for the Advancement of Science
American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases
American Association for Thoracic Surgery
American Association for Vascular Surgery
American Association of Anatomists
American Association of Blood Banks
American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists
American Association of Colleges of Nursing
American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine
American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy
American Association of Immunologists
American Association of Neurological Surgeons
American Association of Public Health Dentistry
American Autoimmune Related Diseases Association
American Cancer Society
American Chemical Society
American College of Cardiology
American College of Chest Physicians
American College of Chest Surgeons
American College of Medical Genetics
American College of Neuropsychopharmacology
American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
American College of Radiology Association
American College of Rheumatology
American College of Surgeons
American Dental Association
American Dental Education Association
American Diabetes Association
American Federation for Aging Research
American Foundation for Urologic Disease
American Gastroenterological Association
American Geriatrics Society
American Heart Association

American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering
American Lung Association
American Medical Association
American Neurological Association
American Osteopathic Association
American Pediatric Society
American Peptide Society
American Physical Therapy Association
American Physiological Society
American Psychiatric Association
American Psychological Association
American Psychological Society
American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
American Society for Bone and Mineral Research
The American Society for Cell Biology
American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science
American Society for Clinical Nutrition
American Society for Investigative Pathology
The American Society for Microbiology
American Society for Nutritional Sciences
American Society for Pharmacology & Experimental Therapeutics
American Society for Reproductive Medicine
American Society for Therapeutic Radiation and Oncology
American Society for Virology
American Society of Hematology
American Society of Human Genetics
American Society of Hypertension, Inc.
American Society of Nephrology
American Society of Pediatric Nephrology
American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene
American Sociological Association
American Stroke Association
American Thoracic Society
American Tinnitus Association
American Urogynecologic Society
American Urological Association
Americans for Medical Progress
Amgen, Inc.
The Arc of the United States
Arthritis Foundation
Association of Anatomy, Cell Biology & Neurobiology Chairpersons
Association for Medical School Pharmacology
Association of Academic Health Centers
Association of Academic Health Science Libraries
Association of American Cancer Institutes
Association of American Medical Colleges
Association of American Physicians
Association of American Universities
Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges
Association of Anesthesiology Program Directors
Association of Black Cardiologists

Association of Chairs of Departments of Physiology
The Association of Cleveland Physiologists
Association of Clinicians for the Underserved
Association of Community Cancer Centers
Association of Departments of Family Medicine
Association of Independent Research Institutes
Association of Medical School Microbiology and Immunology Chairs
Association of Medical School Pediatric Department Chairs
Association of Minority Health Professions Schools
Association of Population Centers
Association of Professors of Dermatology
Association of Professors of Medicine
Association of Program Directors in Internal Medicine
Association of Schools of Public Health
Association of Subspecialty Professors
Association of Teachers of Preventive Medicine
Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America
Athena Diagnostics
Aurora Economic Development Council
Avalon Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
Aventis Pharmaceuticals
Battelle
Baylor College of Dentistry
Baylor College of Medicine
Baylor College of Medicine-Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences
The Biophysical Society
Biotechnology Industry Organization
The Blood Center of SE Wisconsin
Boston Biomedical Research Institute
Boston Cure Project
Boston University School of Dental Medicine
Boston University School of Public Health
Boys Town National Research Hospital
Breast Cancer Resource Committee, Inc.
Breast Health Institute
Brigham and Women's Hospital
Bristol-Myers Squibb Pharmaceutical Research Institute
Brown Medical School
Buck Institute for Age Research
Burns & Allen Research Institute
Burroughs Wellcome Fund
California Biomedical Research Association
California Institute of Technology
Campaign for Medical Research
Cancer Awareness Program Services, Inc.
Cancer Research and Prevention Foundation
Cancer Research Fund of the Damon Runyon-Walter Winchell Foundation
Candlelighters Childhood Cancer Foundation
CaPCURE
CARES Foundation, Inc.
Case Western Reserve University School of Dentistry

Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine
Cedars-Sinai Health System
The Center for Blood Research
Center for the Advancement of Health
Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science
Charles River Laboratories
The Children's Hospital Foundation Research Institute
Children's Research Institute
Christopher Reeve Paralysis Foundation
Citizens for Public Action on Blood Pressure and Cholesterol, Inc.
City of Hope
Cleft Palate Foundation
Clerkship Directors in Internal Medicine
Coalition for Blood Disease and Blood Safety Research
Coalition for the Advancement of Health Through Behavioral and Social Sciences
Research
Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory
Coleman Institute for Cognitive Disabilities
College on Problems of Drug Dependence
Colon Cancer Alliance
Colorado Biotechnology Association
Colorado State University
Colorectal Cancer Network
Columbia University
Columbia University Health Sciences
Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health
Columbia University School of Dental & Oral Surgery
Compliant
Conference of Boston Teaching Hospitals
Congress of Neurological Surgeons
Connecticut United for Research Excellence
Conquer Fragile X Foundation
Consortium of Social Science Associations
Cooley's Anemia Foundation
Coriell Institute for Medical Research
Council of Scientific Society Presidents
Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease Foundation
Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
Dartmouth Medical School
Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance
DES Action USA
Digestive Disease National Coalition
Drexel University
Drexel University College of Medicine
Duke University Medical Center
Dystonia Medical Research Foundation
East Tennessee State University
Easter Seals
Eli Lilly and Company

Emory University Rollins School of Public Health
Emory University School of Medicine
Emory University-Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing
The Endocrine Society
Epilepsy Foundation
Eyes On The Prize: Support and Information for Gynecologic Cancer Survivors
Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology
The Federation of Behavioral, Psychological, and Cognitive Sciences
Federation of State Medical Boards
Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwestern University
Finch University of Health Sciences/The Chicago Medical School
First Candle/Sudden Infant Death Syndrome Alliance
Fitzsimons Redevelopment Authority
Florida Atlantic University Division of Research
Florida State University
The Forsyth Institute
Fox Chase Cancer Center
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center
Friends of Cancer Research
Friends of the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research
Friends of the National Institute of Nursing Research
Friends of the National Library of Medicine
Friends Research Institute, Inc.
The Genetic Alliance
The Genome Action Coalition (TGAC)
Genzyme Corporation
The George Washington University Medical Center
Georgetown University Medical Center
The Gerontological Society of America
GlaxoSmithKline
Global Health Council
Gluten Intolerance Group
GMP Companies, Inc.
The Greater San Antonio Chamber of Commerce
Guillain Barré Syndrome Foundation International
Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America
Harbor-UCLA Research and Education Institute
Harvard Medical School
Harvard Medical School-Massachusetts General Hospital
Harvard University School of Dental Medicine
Hauptman-Woodward Medical Research Institute
Hemophilia Federation of America
Hepatitis B Foundation
Hepatitis Foundation of America
Hereditary Disease Foundation
Howard Hughes Medical Institute
Howard University College of Medicine
Human Genome Sciences, Inc.
IBM Life Sciences Division
Illinois State University
Immune Deficiency Foundation

ImmunoGen, Inc.
Indiana University, School of Dentistry
Institute of Food Technologists
Intercultural Cancer Council Caucus
International Foundation for Anticancer Drug Discovery
International Foundation for Functional Gastrointestinal Disorders
International Myeloma Foundation
International Rett Syndrome Association
International Society for Computational Biology
Iris Alliance Fund
The J. David Gladstone Institutes
The Jackson Laboratory
The Jeffrey Modell Foundation
The Johns Hopkins University
Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health
Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine
Johnson & Johnson
Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation International
Keck School of Medicine
Kennedy Krieger Institute
Keystone Symposia on Molecular & Cellular Biology
Kidney Cancer Association
La Jolla Institute for Allergy & Immunology
LA Orthopaedic Hospital
Lance Armstrong Foundation
Lawson Wilkins Pediatric Endocrine Society
Leukemia & Lymphoma Society
Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center
Lovelace Respiratory Research Institute
Loyola University of Chicago Stritch School of Medicine
LSU Health Sciences Center-New Orleans
Lupus Foundation of America, Inc.
Lupus Foundation of Colorado, Inc.
Lymphatic Research Foundation
Lymphoma Research Foundation
March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation
Marti Nelson Cancer Foundation
Mary Ann Liebert, Inc.
Masonic Medical Research Laboratory
Massachusetts General Hospital
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Maternity Center Association
Mayo Foundation
McLaughlin Research Institute
Medical Alley
Medical and Health Research Association of NYC
Medical College of Georgia
Medical College of Wisconsin
The Medical Foundation, Inc.
Medical Library Association
Medical University of South Carolina

Meharry Medical College School of Dentistry
Meharry Medical College School of Medicine
Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center
Mended Hearts, Inc.
Men's Health Network
Mercer University School of Medicine
Metro Denver Network, Chamber of Commerce
Miami Children's Hospital
Michigan Society for Medical Research
Midwest Nursing Research Society
Morehouse School of Medicine
Mount Sinai Medical Center
Mount Sinai School of Medicine-Asian Pacific American Medical Student Association
NASPE/Heart Rhythm Society
National Alliance for Autism Research
National Alliance for Eye and Vision Research
The National Alliance for Hispanic Health
National Alliance for Research in Schizophrenia and Depression
National Alliance for the Mentally Ill
National Alliance of Breast Cancer Organizations
National Alopecia Areata Foundation
National Asian Women's Health Organization
National Association for Biomedical Research
National Association of Social Workers
National Association of State Universities & Land-Grant Colleges
National Black Caucus of State Legislators
National Caucus of Basic Biomedical Science Chairs
National Center for Learning Disabilities
National Coalition for Cancer Research
National Coalition for Heart and Stroke Research
National Coalition for Osteoporosis and Related Bone Diseases
National Committee for Quality Health Care
National Emphysema/COPD Association
National Foundation for Ectodermal Dysplasias
National Health Council
National Hemophilia Foundation
National Jewish Medical and Research Center
National Kidney Foundation
National Marfan Foundation
National Melanoma Foundation
National MPS Society
National Multiple Sclerosis Society
National Organization for Rare Disorders (NORD)
National Osteoporosis Foundation
National Perinatal Association
National Pharmaceutical Council
National Primate Research Centers Directors
National Prostate Cancer Coalition
National Sleep Foundation
National Society of Genetic Counselors
National Stroke Association

Nebraskans for Research
NephCure Foundation
Neurofibromatosis, Inc., New England
New Jersey Association for Biomedical Research
New Jersey Chronic Fatigue Syndrome Association
New Jersey Dental School
New York Medical College
New York Presbyterian Hospital
New York University College of Dentistry
New York University School of Medicine
NHLBI Constituency Group
North American Brain Tumor Coalition
North American Vascular Biology Organization
North Carolina Association for Biomedical Research
Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine
Northwest Association for Biomedical Research
Northwestern University
Nova Southeastern University
Novartis Pharmaceuticals
Ohio Scientific Education & Research Association
The Ohio State University
The Ohio State University School of Public Health
Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation
Oral Health America
Oregon Health & Science University
Oregon Health & Science University School of Dentistry
Oregon Health & Science University School of Nursing
Oregon Research Institute
Osteogenesis Imperfecta Foundation
Ovarian Cancer National Alliance
Oxford Bioscience Partners
The Paget Foundation
Pancreatic Cancer Action Network (PanCAN)
Paralyzed Veterans of America
Parent Project Muscular Dystrophy
The Parkinson Alliance
Parkinson's Action Network
Parkinson's Disease Foundation
The Parkinson's Unity Walk
Pennsylvania Prostate Cancer Coalition
Pennsylvania Society for Biomedical Research
The Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine
Population Association of America
Presbyterian Health Foundation
Protarga, Inc.
The Protein Society
Public Health Foundation
Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation
Pulmonary Hypertension Association
Purdue Pharma, L.P.
PXE International

Research Foundation for Mental Hygiene
Research!America
RESOLVE: The National Infertility Association
Rice University
The Rockefeller University
Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's Medical Center
Saint Louis University School of Medicine
The Salk Institute for Biological Studies
Schepens Eye Research Institute
The Scientist
Scleroderma Research Foundation
Sisters Network Inc.
Sjogren's Syndrome Foundation, Inc.
The Smith-Kettlewell Eye Research Institute
Society for Gynecologic Investigation
The Society for Investigative Dermatology
Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine
Society for Neuroscience
Society for Pediatric Research
Society for Public Health Education, Inc.
Society for Research in Child Development
Society for the Study of Reproduction
Society for Vascular Surgery
Society for Women's Health Research
Society of Academic Anesthesiology Chairs
Society of Gynecologic Oncologists
Society of Interventional Radiology
Society of Toxicology
South Alabama Medical Science Foundation
South Dakota EPSCoR
Southern Illinois University School of Medicine
Southwest Foundation for Biomedical Research
Spina Bifida Association of America
St. Louis University School of Public Health
Stanford University School of Medicine
State University of New York at Buffalo
State University of New York at Stony Brook
State University of New York HSC, Brooklyn
State University of New York Upstate Medical University
Strategic Health Policy International, Inc.
Student National Medical Association
Targacept, Inc.
Temple University School of Dentistry
Texas A&M University System HSC College of Medicine
Texas Neurofibromatosis Foundation
Tissue Engineering Society International
Tourette Syndrome Association
Tuberous Sclerosis Alliance
Tufts University School of Dental Medicine
Tulane University Health Sciences Center
UCLA-School of Public Health

United Ostomy Association
University of Alabama at Birmingham
University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Nursing
University of Arizona
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
University of California, Davis-School of Medicine
University of California, Irvine
University of California, Los Angeles
University of California, San Diego
University of California, San Francisco Asian American Clinic
University of California, San Francisco, School of Dentistry
University of California, Santa Cruz
University of California, Systemwide
University of California-Berkeley, School of Public Health
University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine
University of Colorado Health Sciences Center School of Dentistry
University of Colorado Health Sciences Center School of Medicine
University of Colorado Health Sciences Center School of Nursing
University of Colorado Health Sciences Center School of Pharmacy
University of Colorado System
University of Connecticut Health Center
University of Florida College of Dentistry
University of Florida College of Health Professions
University of Florida College of Medicine
University of Florida College of Nursing
University of Georgia
University of Illinois at Chicago
University of Illinois at Chicago College of Dentistry
University of Illinois at Chicago College of Nursing
University of Illinois at Chicago School of Public Health
University of Iowa
University of Iowa Roy J. and Lucille A. Carver College of Medicine
University of Iowa College of Dentistry
University of Iowa College of Public Health
The University of Kansas
University of Kansas Medical Center
University of Kansas School of Nursing
University of Kentucky College of Dentistry
University of Louisville
University of Louisville School of Dentistry
University of Maryland at Baltimore
University of Maryland at Baltimore School of Nursing
University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey
University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey School of Public Health
University of Miami
University of Michigan Health System
University of Michigan Medical School
University of Michigan School of Dentistry
University of Michigan School of Public Health
University of Minnesota School of Dentistry
University of Minnesota School of Public Health

University of Mississippi Medical Center
University of Mississippi Medical Center, School of Dentistry
University of Mississippi Medical Center, School of Nursing
University of Missouri at Kansas City School of Dentistry
University of Montana School of Pharmacy & Allied Health Sciences
University of Nebraska College of Dentistry
University of Nebraska Medical Center
University of Nevada
University of Nevada, Las Vegas School of Dentistry
University of Nevada-Reno, School of Medicine
University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill School of Medicine
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill School of Public Health
University of North Dakota
University of North Texas Health Science Center
University of Oklahoma College of Dentistry
The University of Oklahoma Health Science Center
University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine
University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine
University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing
University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health
University of Pittsburgh School of Dentistry
University of Pittsburgh School of Health Sciences
University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine
University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry
University of Rochester School of Nursing
University of South Carolina, School of Medicine
University of South Carolina, School of Public Health
University of South Florida College of Nursing
University of South Florida Office of Research
University of Southern California School of Dentistry
University of Southern California School of Pharmacy
University of Tennessee Health Science Center
University of Tennessee Health Science Center, College of Nursing
The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center
The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston
The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center
University of Utah Health Sciences Center
University of Vermont College of Medicine
University of Washington Academic Medical Center
University of Washington School of Dentistry
University of Washington School of Nursing
University of Washington School of Public Health
University of Wisconsin-Madison
University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Nursing
Us Too! International
Van Andel Research Institute
Vanderbilt University Medical Center
Vanderbilt University School of Nursing

Virginia Commonwealth University
Wake Forest University School of Medicine
Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis
Weill Medical College of Cornell University
West Harlem Environmental Action
West Virginia University Health Sciences Center
West Virginia University School of Dentistry
The Whitaker Foundation
Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research
Wisconsin Association for Biomedical Research & Education
The Wistar Institute of Anatomy and Biology
Wright State University School of Medicine
Wyeth Pharmaceuticals
Yale University School of Medicine
Yale University School of Nursing
Y-ME National Breast Cancer Organization