

November 8, 2005

**The Honorable Ralph Regula
Chairman
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services,
Education and Related Agencies
United State House of Representative
2306 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515**

Dear Mr. Chairman:

As you work to finalize the conference agreement on the FY 2006 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies Appropriation (H.R. 3010), the undersigned organizations, which represent patients, scientists, healthcare providers, and industry, strongly urge you to support the Senate-passed recommendation of \$29.4 billion for the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

For nearly 60 years, this nation's investment in medical research through the NIH has enabled great progress in saving lives, reducing human suffering and generating immeasurable economic dividends. But continued medical progress will be jeopardized unless Congress continues to support the quest for more effective treatments, diagnostics and preventive measures for diseases that collectively affect millions of Americans. As the Senate Appropriations Committee noted in its report on the FY 2006 funding bill:

**The Nation's investment in NIH has yielded a myriad of scientific achievements that are helping to save lives, prevent illness and improve the quality of life. From drugs to control high blood pressure, lower cholesterol and prevent blood clots to the development of a vaccine that eliminates the leading cause of mental retardation in infants, NIH has played a significant role. But that role has broadened and taken on even greater immediacy, as NIH has taken the lead in protecting our Nation against bioterrorism and other public health emergencies including anthrax, plague, tularemia and West Nile virus. With these and other threats looming, now is not the time for retrenchment; rather, it is the time to exploit fully any opportunity that could lead to improved health.
[Senate report 109-103, page 88]**

We urge you to support \$29.4 billion for NIH in the FY 2006 Labor-HHS-Education conference bill. Now is not the time to weaken this nation's

commitment to the medical research that provides hope for the improved health and well-being of all Americans.

Sincerely,

AIDS Treatment Activists Coalition (ATAC)
Academic Health Centers' Clinical Research Forum
Academy of Radiology Research
Acid Maltase Deficiency Association (AMDA)
Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research Funding
Albert Einstein College of Medicine
Allegheny-Singer Research Institute
Allergan, Inc.
Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine
Alliance for Aging Research
Alpha-1 Association
Alpha-1 Foundation
Alstrom Syndrome International
Alzheimer's Association
Ambulatory Pediatric Association
AMD Alliance International
American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology
American Academy of Dermatology Association
American Academy of Neurology
American Academy of Optometry
American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons
American Academy of Otolaryngology--Head and Neck Surgery
American Academy of Pediatrics
American Academy of Sleep Medicine
American Anthropological Association
American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy
American Association of Immunologists
American Association Neurological Surgeons
American Association for Dental Research
American Association for Geriatric Psychiatry
American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases
American Association for Thoracic Surgery
American Association of University Professors
American Brain Coalition
American Cancer Society
American Chemical Society
American College of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology (ACAAI)
American College of Clinical Pharmacology
American College of Medical Genetics
American College of Neuropsychopharmacology
American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists

American College of Physicians
American College of Preventive Medicine
American College of Rheumatology
American Dental Association
American Dental Education Association
American Diabetes Association
American Federation for Medical Research
American Foundation for AIDS Research (amfAR)
American Gastroenterological Association
American Heart Association
American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association (AHEPA)
American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering (AIMBE)
American Liver Foundation
American Lung Association
American Optometric Association
American Osteopathic Association
American Pain Foundation
American Pediatric Society
American Physiological Society
American Psychiatric Association
American Psychological Association
American Psychological Society
American Sleep Apnea Association
American Sociological Association
American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (ASBMB)
American Society for Bone and Mineral Research
American Society for Cell Biology
American Society for Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics
American Society for Microbiology
American Society for Pharmacology & Experimental Therapeutics
American Society for Reproductive Medicine
American Society of Addiction Medicine
American Society of Clinical Oncology
American Society of Hematology
American Society of Human Genetics
American Society of Nephrology
American Thoracic Society
Americans for Medical Progress
America's Blood Centers
Angioma Alliance
Aplastic Anemia & MDS International Foundation
Apoyo al Niño Down (ANDO)
ARPKD/CHF Alliance
Arthritis Foundation
Associated Medical Schools of New York
Association for Clinical Research Training

Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology
Association of Academic Health Centers
Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries
Association of Academic Physiatrists
Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC)
Association of American Universities (AAU)
Association of Anatomy, Cell Biology and Neurobiology Chairpersons
American Association of Colleges of Nursing
Association of Departments of Family Medicine
Association of Independent Research Institutes
Association of Medical and Graduate Departments of Biochemistry
Association of Medical School Microbiology and Immunology Chairs
Association of Medical School Neuroscience Department Chairs
Association of Medical School Pediatric Department Chairs (AMSPDC)
Association of Minority Health Professions Schools
Association of Pathology Chairs
Association of Population Centers
Association of Professors of Human/ Medical Genetics
Association of Professors of Medicine
Association of Psychologists in Academic Health Centers (APAHC)
Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry
Association of Schools of Public Health
Association of Subspecialty Professors
Association of University Anesthesiologists
Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD)
Association of University Professors of Neurology (AUPN)
Asthma & Allergy Foundation of America
Autism Tissue Program
BCCNS Life Support Network
Boston University School of Medicine
Boys Town National Research Hospital
Brown Medical School
CADASIL Together We Have Hope
California Institute of Technology
Cardio-Facio-Cutaneous International
Caring Ambassadors
Case School of Medicine
Cedars-Sinai Health System
Celiac Sprue Association
Center for the Advancement of Health
Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science
Child Neurology Society
Child & Adolescent Bipolar Foundation
Children's Hospital Boston
Christopher Reeve Foundation
Citizens for Quality Sickle Cell Care, Inc

Citizens United for Research in Epilepsy (CURE)
Coalition for American Trauma Care
Coalition of EPSCoR/IDeA States
Coalition of Heritable Disorders of Connective Tissue
Columbia University
Conference of Boston Teaching Hospitals
Congenital Adrenal Hyperplasia Research, Education and Support (CARES
Foundation)
Congress of Neurological Surgeons
Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA)
Cooley's Anemia Foundation
Cornelia de Lange Syndrome Foundation, Inc.
Cornell University
Council on Governmental Relations
Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America
Curtis Laxa Internationale
Cutaneous Lymphoma Foundation
Cyclic Vomiting Syndrome Association
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation
Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance
Digestive Disease National Coalition
Duke University Medical Center
Duke University School of Medicine
Dystonia Medical Research Foundation
EDS Today
The Endocrine Society
Epilepsy Foundation
ESA, Inc.
Esophageal Cancer Awareness Assn., Inc.
Facing Our Risk of Cancer Empowered (FORCE)
Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB)
FIGHT FOR SIGHT
FOD Family Support Group
Fox Chase Cancer Center
The Foundation Fighting Blindness
Genentech, Inc.
General Clinical Research Centers Program Directors Association
Genetic Alliance
Genetic Alliance BioBank
Genetics Society of America
Georgia Institute of Technology
Gerontological Society of America
Gluten Intolerance Group of North America
Heart Rhythm Society
Hemophilia Federation of America
Hepatitis Foundation International

Hereditary Hemorrhagic Telangiectasia Foundation International
Hermansky-Pudlak Syndrome Network Inc.
Hunter's Hope Foundation
Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy Association
Indiana University School of Medicine
Institute for the Advancement of Social Work Research
International Foundation for Functional Gastrointestinal Disorders
Isodicentric 15 Exchange, Advocacy & Support (IDEAS)
Jeffrey Modell Foundation
Johns Hopkins Institutions
Johns Hopkins Medicine
Judah International Christian Center, Inc.
Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation International
Lifespan Hospital System
Lupus Research Institute National Coalition
Lymphatic Research Foundation
Lymphoma Research Foundation
March of Dimes
Maricopa Medical Foundation
Mayo Clinic
Medical College of Wisconsin
Medical Library Association
Meharry Medical College
Meridian Health
MLD Foundation
Michigan State University
Molecular Medicine Foundation
Morehouse School of Medicine
Mount Sinai School of Medicine
National Alopecia Areata Foundation
National Alliance for Eye and Vision Research
National Alliance on Mental Illness
National Association for Biomedical Research
National Association for Continence (NAFC)
National Association of Social Workers
National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors (NASADAD)
National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges (NASULGC)
National Caucus of Basic Biomedical Science Chairs
National Coalition for Heart and Stroke Research
National Coalition for Osteoporosis and Related Bone Diseases
National Eczema Association for Science and Education
National Kidney Foundation
National MPS Society
National Marfan Foundation
National Multiple Sclerosis Society
National Organization for Rare Disorders (NORD)

National Organization of Vascular Anomalies
National Primate Research Centers
National Psoriasis Foundation
National Sleep Foundation
National Society of Genetic Counselors (NSGC)
National Stroke Association
National Tay-Sachs & Allied Diseases Association, Inc. (NTSAD)
National Women's Health Network
NephCure Foundation
Neurofibromatosis, Inc.
Neuropathy Association
Neuropathy Research Foundation
New York Medical College
New York University School of Medicine
NHLBI Constituency Group
Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine
Northern Nevada Genetic Counseling
Northwestern University
Ohio State University
Osteogenesis Imperfecta Foundation
Paget Foundation for Paget's Disease of Bone and Related Disorders
Pancreatic Cancer Action Network (PanCAN)
Parent Project Muscular Dystrophy
Parkinson's Action Network
Penn State University College of Medicine
Population Association of America
Prader-Willi Syndrome Association (USA)
Preeclampsia Foundation
Primary Ciliary Dyskinesia Foundation (PCD)
Project DOCC - Delivery of Chronic Care
The Protein Society
Pull-thru Network, Inc.
Pulmonary Hypertension Association
PXE International
Research!America
Restless Legs Syndrome Foundation
Rett Syndrome Research Foundation
Robert Woodruff Health Sciences Center, Emory University
Rutgers University
SADS Foundation
Scleroderma Foundation
Sjögren's Syndrome Foundation
Sleep Research Society
Society for Academic Emergency Medicine
Society for Investigative Dermatology
Society of Interventional Radiology

Society for Maternal Fetal Medicine
Society for Neuroscience
Society for Pediatric Research
Society for Research in Child Development
Society for Women's Health Research
Society of Gynecologic Oncologists
Society of Interventional Radiology
Society of University Surgeons
Sophie Davis School of Biomedical Education
South Alabama Medical Science Foundation
Stanford University School of Medicine
Stony Brook University Hospital
Sturge-Weber Foundation
Sudden Arrhythmia Death Syndromes (SADS) Foundation
SUNY Downstate Medical Center
SUNY Upstate Medical University, Syracuse
TeenScreen
Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center
Tuberous Sclerosis Alliance
Tulane University
UCLA
UNC at Charlotte
UNC at Chapel Hill
UNC at Greensboro
UNC at Wilmington
United Mitochondrial Disease Foundation
University of Alabama School of Medicine
University of Arizona
University of California
University of Chicago
University of Cincinnati
University of Florida Health Science Center
University of Houston
University of Illinois Chicago College of Medicine
University of Iowa
University of Maryland
University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey
University of Michigan
University of Minnesota
University of Missouri
University of Nebraska
University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine
University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine
University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry
University of Southern California
University of Texas Medical, Galveston

University of Virginia
University of Washington
University of Wisconsin-Madison
Vanderbilt University Medical Center
Virginia Commonwealth University
Washington University in St. Louis
Wake Forest University Health Sciences
Wake Forest University School of Medicine
West Virginia University School of Medicine
Wright State University
XLH Network, Inc.
Yale University