



April 4, 2006

The Honorable Dave Reichert
U.S. House of Representatives
1223 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

**Association of
American Medical Colleges**
2450 N Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037-1127
T 202 828 0400 F 202 828 1125
www.aamc.org

Jordan J. Cohen, M.D.
President

Fax: (202) 225-4282

Dear Representative Reichert:

On behalf of the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC), I write to urge you to vote against the FY 2007 Budget Resolution when it is considered on the House floor later this week unless it includes an additional \$7 billion for health, education, and human services programs. The AAMC represents the nation's 125 accredited allopathic medical schools, nearly 400 major teaching hospitals and health systems, and 96 academic and scientific societies representing 109,000 medical school faculty members.

This funding would restore to the FY 2005 levels support for the National Institutes of Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the other agencies of the Public Health Service that are critical to improving the health and well-being of all Americans. This funding is needed to sustain the research, education, and patient care activities at the nations' medical schools and teaching hospitals as we confront unprecedented health challenges ranging from an aging and increasingly diverse population to the threat of new and re-emerging diseases.

We realize the multitude of priorities Congress must address in formulating the budget. However, we believe there are no higher priorities than providing healthier, more productive lives for all Americans. We urge you to support the addition of \$7 billion to the budget resolution to preserve the discretionary health programs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jordan J. Cohen". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jordan J. Cohen, M.D.