

July 16, 2009

The Honorable David Obey
Chair
Subcommittee on Labor-HHS-Education
Committee on Appropriations
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Todd Tiaht
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Labor-HHS-Education
Committee on Appropriations
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Obey and Ranking Member Tiaht:

The undersigned patient groups, scientific and medical societies, research institutions, and industry organizations write to thank you for recognizing the National Institutes of Health (NIH) as a significant priority in the Subcommittee's FY 2010 Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations bill. We sincerely appreciate that the Subcommittee bill provides an increase for NIH that exceeds the President's budget request by \$500 million, especially since the bill also funds many other critical human services programs. Your leadership on behalf of the nation's medical research enterprise is deeply appreciated by the scientific community and the patients and health care professionals that will benefit from the world-class research supported by NIH.

As you know, sustainable, reliable budget growth for the NIH is essential to fostering scientific discovery and the medical innovations that improve the health and well-being of the American people. Your call for increased funding for NIH affirms the depth and breadth of today's scientific opportunity after years of erosion by inflation. Your Subcommittee's action begins to restore the research momentum of earlier in the decade.

Your efforts to support a robust NIH budget are a crucial step in helping to bridge the tremendous investments through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) with the NIH's regular budget, enabling researchers to follow through on the scientific opportunities afforded by the legislation even after the ARRA funding has expired. Moreover, a strong investment in the NIH's FY 2010 budget will help support the many meritorious ongoing projects that do not qualify for ARRA funding but hold the potential to enhance our understanding of medical phenomena, foster the breakthrough discoveries that lead to treatments and medical advancements, and improve health.

Once again, we thank you for your tireless efforts and continued leadership in support of NIH, and we look forward to working with you and your colleagues as the appropriations process continues.

Sincerely,

Academic Pediatric Association
Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine
Alliance for Aging Research
Alpha-1 Association
Alpha-1 Foundation

American Academy of Pediatrics
American Association of Colleges of Nursing
The American Association of Neurological Surgeons (AANS)
American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons
American Society of Pediatric Nephrology
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network
American Chemical Society
The American College of Clinical Pharmacology
The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
The American College of Radiology (ACR)
American Educational Research Association
American Gastroenterological Association
American Heart Association
American Lung Association
American Osteopathic Association
American Pediatric Society
American Psychiatric Association
American Psychological Association
American Psychosomatic Society
American Physiological Society
American Society for Bone and Mineral Research
The American Society for Cell Biology
American Society for Microbiology
American Society for Pharmacology & Experimental Therapeutics
American Society for Reproductive Medicine
American Society of Clinical Oncology
American Society of Hematology
American Society of Human Genetics
American Society of Nephrology
American Society of Transplantation (AST)
American Statistical Association
American Thoracic Society
American Tinnitus Association
Arizona State University
Arthritis Foundation
Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America
Association for Clinical Research
Association for Psychological Science
Association of Academic Health Science Libraries
Association of American Medical Colleges
Association of American Universities
Association of Independent Research Institutes
Association of Medical School Pediatric Department Chairs
Association of Professors of Medicine
Association of Specialty Professors
Association of University Centers on Disabilities

Baylor College of Medicine
Biophysical Society
Biotechnology Industry Organization
Brigham and Women's Hospital
Brown University
COPD Foundation
California Institute of Technology
Cedars-Sinai Medical Center
The Christopher and Dana Reeve Foundation
Clemson University
Clinical Research Forum
The Coalition for Health Services Research
Coalition for Heritable Disorder of Connective Tissue
Coalition for the Advancement of Health Through Behavioral and Social Sciences Research
Coalition for the Life Sciences
Coalition to Protect Research
Columbia University
Congenital Adrenal Hyperplasia Research Education and Support (CARES) Foundation, Inc.
Congress of Neurological Surgeons (CNS)
Consortium of Social Science Associations
Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America
David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA
Duke University School of Medicine
Dystonia Medical Research Foundation
The Endocrine Society
Emory University
Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB)
Federation of Associations in Behavioral & Brain Sciences
Fletcher Allen Health Care
The Foundation for AIDS Research
Genetic Alliance
Genetics Society of America
Harvard University
Healthcare Association of New York State
Heart Rhythm Society
Hepatitis Foundation International (HFI)
Indiana University
Interstitial Cystitis Association
International Federation of Functional Gastrointestinal Disorders (IFFGD)
Infectious Diseases Society of America
Johns Hopkins Institutions
Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation
Lupus Research Institute
March of Dimes Foundation
Massachusetts General Hospital
Medical College of Wisconsin

Michigan State University
The Mount Sinai Medical Center
National Alliance for Eye and Vision Research (NAEVR)
National Alliance on Mental Illness
National Alopecia Areata Foundation
National Association for Biomedical Research
National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors
National Caucus of Basic Biomedical Science Chairs
National Eczema Association
National Health Council
National Marfan Foundation
National Multiple Sclerosis Society
National Primate Research Centers
National Psoriasis Foundation
NephCure Foundation
New York Stem Cell Foundation
New York University
Northwestern University
Ohio State University Medical Center
Oregon Health & Science University
PXE International
Partners Health Care
Penn Medicine
Penn State College of Medicine
The Population Association of America and Association of Population Centers
Pulmonary Hypertension Association
Sbarro Health Research Organization
Scleroderma Foundation
Society for Clinical and Translational Science
Society for Pediatric Research
Society for Research in Child Development
Society for Women's Health Research
Society of Hospital Medicine
Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital
Stanford University School of Medicine
Stony Brook University Medical Center
University at Buffalo
University of Alabama at Birmingham
University of California, San Diego
University of California System
University of Cincinnati
University of Kansas
University of Kentucky
University of Maryland School of Medicine
University of Minnesota
University of New Mexico

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
University of Pittsburgh
University of Southern California
University of Utah Health Sciences Center
University of Vermont
University of Virginia
University of Washington
University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Medicine and Public Health
Vanderbilt University
Washington University in St. Louis
Wayne State University School of Medicine
Weill Cornell Medical College
Wound Ostomy and Continence Nurses Society (WOCN)
Yale University