



September 7, 2016

The Honorable Roy Blunt
Chair
Subcommittee on Labor-HHS-Education
Appropriations Committee
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patty Murray
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Labor-HHS-Education
Appropriations Committee
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

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

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

The Honorable Thad Cochran
Chair
Appropriations Committee
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Barbara Mikulski
Ranking Member
Appropriations Committee
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Harold Rogers
Chair
Appropriations Committee
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nita Lowey
Ranking Member
Appropriations Committee
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairmen Blunt, Cole, Cochran, and Rogers, and Ranking Members Murray, DeLauro, Mikulski, and Lowey:

The 210 undersigned members of the Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research write to thank you for your leadership in championing sustained, real growth in medical research funding, and to urge inclusion of the Senate-proposed \$34.1 billion for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in a final fiscal year (FY) 2017 spending package by the end of this calendar year. The Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research is a coalition of patient and voluntary health groups, medical and scientific societies, academic and research organizations, and industry, dedicated to enhancing the federal investment in biomedical, behavioral, social, and population-based research supported by NIH.

Your bipartisan commitment to reliable and meaningful growth in the NIH budget is essential in enabling researchers at universities and research institutions in all 50 states to pursue emerging scientific opportunities to address the nation's most pressing health needs. As you know, in addition to bringing hope and improved health to patients, the ongoing success of the medical research enterprise also drives local and national economic activity, strengthens U.S. competitiveness in an increasingly innovation-based global marketplace, and inspires future generations of scientists to commit to careers in research.

Continuing the momentum of your FY 2016 investment in NIH is key to ensuring that the nation can continue to accelerate the development of life-changing cures, pioneering treatments, and innovative preventive strategies. Our organizations strongly support an approach to the final FY 2017 spending package that maximizes the federal support for NIH and avoids a long-term continuing resolution (CR). Aside from the budget implications, a long-term CR would create inefficiencies and add uncertainty to a system that is already under stress. We strongly urge lawmakers to make finalizing the FY 2017 appropriations a priority.

Additionally, while we all support a robust investment in NIH in the final package, many of our organizations also support investments across the health care continuum that complement and extend NIH's work. We recognize the challenge that appropriators face drafting spending bills under impractical budget caps; we encourage Congress and the Administration to work in a bipartisan manner to relieve pressure on discretionary spending and ensure any final budget agreements reflect a strong commitment to the nation's health.

Once again, we commend you for continuing to recognize NIH as a critical national priority, and we look forward to working with you to secure \$34.1 billion for the agency in FY 2017.

Sincerely,

Academic Pediatric Association
Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
Academy of Radiology Research
AcademyHealth
ACT for NIH: Advancing Cures Today
Adult Congenital Heart Association
Alliance for Aging Research
Alpha-1 Foundation
Alzheimer's Association
American Academy of Pediatrics
American Association for Cancer Research
American Association for Dental Research
American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases
American Association of Colleges of Nursing
American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy
American Association of Geographers
American Association of Immunologists
American Association of Kidney Patients

American Association of Neurological Surgeons
American Association of Neuromuscular and Electrodiagnostic Medicine
American Brain Coalition
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network
American College of Cardiology
American College of Rheumatology
American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
American Heart Association
American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering
American Lung Association
American Pediatric Society
American Physiological Society
American Psychological Association
American Psychosomatic Society
American Society for Bone and Mineral Research
American Society for Microbiology
American Society for Nutrition
American Society of Clinical Oncology
American Society of Hematology
American Society of Nephrology
American Society of Pediatric Nephrology
American Sociological Association
American Statistical Association
American Thoracic Society
American Urogynecologic Society
American Urological Association
American Veterinary Medical Association
Arizona State University
Association for Applied Psychophysiology and Biofeedback
Association for Clinical and Translational Science
Association for Psychological Science
Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology
Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries
Association of American Cancer Institutes
Association of American Medical Colleges
Association of American Universities
Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges
Association of Independent Research Institutes
Association of Medical School Pediatric Department Chairs
Association of Pathology Chairs
Association of Population Centers
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities
Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health
AVAC
Baumont Health
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston

Biophysical Society
Boston University School of Medicine
Case Western Reserve University
Cedars-Sinai
Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences at Stanford University
Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation
Coalition for Clinical and Translational Science
Coalition for Enhancing Diversity in Science (CEDS)
Coalition for the Life Sciences
Coalition to Promote Research (CPR)
Cognitive Science Society
Columbia University
Conference of Boston Teaching Hospitals
Congress of Neurological Surgeons
Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA)
Cooley's Anemia Foundation
Cornell University
Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation
David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA
Digestive Disease National Coalition
Duke University
Dystonia Medical Research Foundation
East Carolina University - The Brody School of Medicine
Eastern Virginia Medical School
Emory University
Endocrine Society
Epilepsy Foundation
Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology
Federation of Associations in Behavioral and Brain Sciences
Florida International University
Friends of NIH Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (Friends of NIH BSSR)
Friends of the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research
GBS|CIDP Foundation International
Harvard University
Heart Failure Society of America
Hepatitis B Foundation
Hepatitis Foundation International
HIV Medicine Association
Indiana University
Infectious Diseases Society of America
International Foundation for Functional Gastrointestinal Disorders
Interstitial Cystitis Association
JDRF
Jeffrey Modell Foundation
Johns Hopkins University

Lancaster General Health/Penn Medicine
Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University
Lupus Foundation of America
Lupus Research Alliance
March of Dimes
Mayo Clinic
Medical College of Wisconsin
Medical Library Association
Michigan State University
Movers & Shakers Parkinson Advocacy and Education Organization
Muscular Dystrophy Association
National Alliance for Eye and Vision Research
National Alopecia Areata Foundation
National Association for Biomedical Research
National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors
National Coalition for Cancer Research
National Hemophilia Foundation
National Kidney Foundation
NephCure Kidney International
New York Medical College
Northeastern University
NYU Langone Medical Center
Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine (OUWB)
Oley Foundation
Oregon Health & Science University
Organic Acidemia Association
Pancreatic Cancer Action Network
Pediatric Policy Council
Penn Medicine
Penn State University
Polycystic Kidney Foundation
Population Association of America
Pulmonary Hypertension Association
Research!America
Scleroderma Foundation
Simon Foundation
Sjögren's Syndrome Foundation
Sleep Research Society
Society for Health Psychology
Society for Investigative Dermatology
Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine
Society for Neuroscience
Society for Pediatric Research
Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues
Society of Behavioral Medicine
Society of General Internal Medicine

Society of Gynecologic Oncology
Stanford University School of Medicine
Stony Brook Medicine
Summa Health
Texas Tech University System
The American College of Radiology (ACR)
The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
The Clinical Research Forum
The Commonwealth Medical College
The Marfan Foundation
The Michael J. Fox Foundation
The University of Texas System
Tufts University
U.S. Hereditary Angioedema Association
UC Davis Health System
UC Irvine Health
UC San Diego Health
Unite 2 Fight Paralysis
United Ostomy Associations of America, Inc
University of Arizona
University of California System
University of Cincinnati
University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus
University of Colorado Boulder
University of Delaware
University of Hawai'i John Burns School of Medicine
University of Illinois College of Medicine
University of Iowa Roy J. and Lucille A. Carver College of Medicine
University of Kansas
University of Massachusetts Medical School
University of Michigan
University of Michigan Health System
University of Missouri System
University of Nebraska Medical Center
University of New Mexico
University of North Carolina School of Medicine
University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences
University of Oregon
University of Pittsburgh
University of Rochester
University of South Florida Health
University of Vermont
University of Virginia
University of Washington
University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health
UsAgainstAlzheimer's

UT Health| The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
UT Southwestern Medical Center
Vanderbilt University
Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center
Washington State University
Washington University in St. Louis
West Virginia University School of Medicine
Western Michigan University Homer Stryker, M.D. School of Medicine
Yale University

cc:

The Honorable Paul Ryan, Speaker of the House
The Honorable Kevin McCarthy, House Majority Leader
The Honorable Nancy Pelosi, House Minority Leader
The Honorable Mitch McConnell, Senate Majority Leader
The Honorable Harry Reid, Senate Minority Leader