

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 28, 2019

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Chairwoman
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human
Services, Education, and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
H-307, the Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Tom Cole
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human
Services, Education, and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
1016 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairs Lowey and DeLauro and Ranking Members Granger and Cole:

As Members of Congress who value the critical role played by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in better health outcomes, job creation, education, and economic growth, we respectfully request that the program level for the agency in Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 should be at least \$41.6 billion, \$2.5 billion above the final FY19 funding level, to reflect the rising costs of biomedical research. At a time of unprecedented scientific opportunity, it is critical that the United States make forward-thinking investments that promote medical breakthroughs as well as our international leadership in biomedical research.

Providing this amount to the NIH would maintain the steady, sustained increases for the NIH each year, account for biomedical inflation, and ensure that the Innovation Accounts provided through the 21st Century Cures Act would supplement the agency's base budget through dedicated funding to specific programs, as intended. Despite recent progress, our nation's investment in NIH still has not fully recovered from over a decade of underinvestment. The wide-ranging impact of this lag led to dramatically lower grant application success rates and less money available for new researchers seeking their first grant. If we do not continue the recent momentum of adequate budget growth, we risk forcing students who are receiving a world-class education at American universities to graduate and seek research positions in China and other nations that are ramping up investment in biomedical research.

The critical investments we make in biomedical research are our nation's best hope in finding cures and treatments of diseases that affect millions of Americans. The agency conducts research that is too expensive and risky for private industry to undertake alone but has led to major achievements in our understanding of rare diseases and disorders, as well as historically prevalent diseases like Alzheimer's, cancer and Parkinson's. In addition to bettering the lives of millions, NIH funding supports over 400,000 non-federal scientists and technical personnel at 2,500 research universities and facilities nationwide. Their work drives the demand for medical

supplies and research equipment. NIH funding ripples far beyond its headquarters in Bethesda, Maryland, to benefit manufacturers and suppliers in every state in America.


In light of the difficult budget decisions you face, we want to stress the importance of NIH as a job creator, driver of economic growth, and a vital tool in curbing our nation's soaring healthcare costs. We appreciate your consideration of our request to provide at least \$41.6 billion in funding for NIH in FY 2020. Please contact Charlie Arnowitz (Rep. Carson) with any further questions.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,



Susan A. Davis
Member of Congress



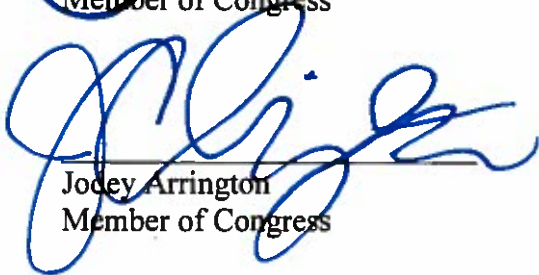
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David B. McKinley, P.E.
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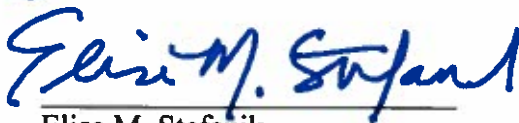
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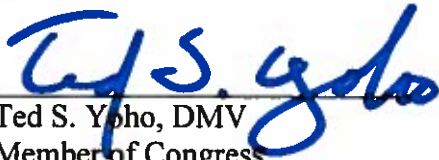
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Member of Congress



Cathy McMorris Rodgers
Member of Congress



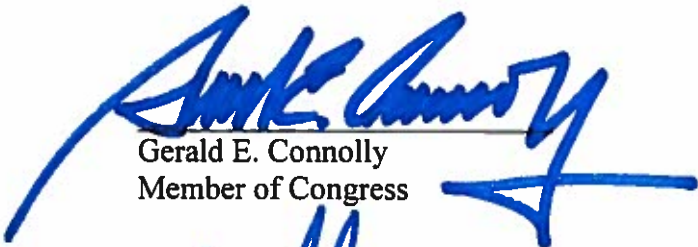
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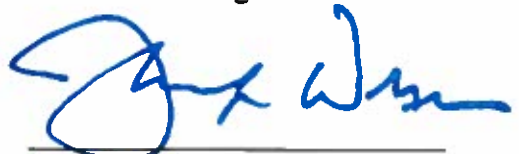
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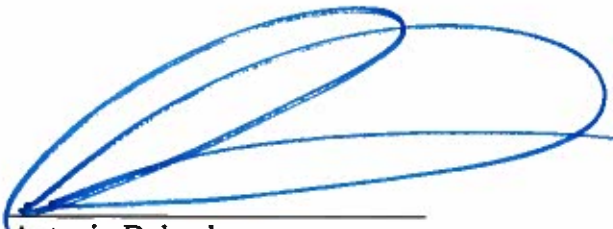
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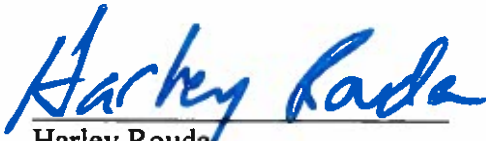
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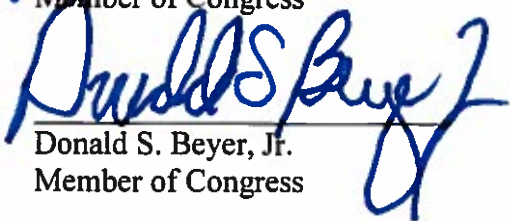
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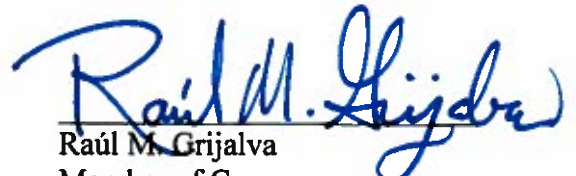


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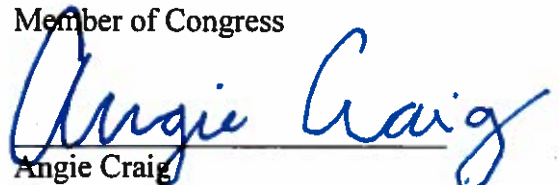

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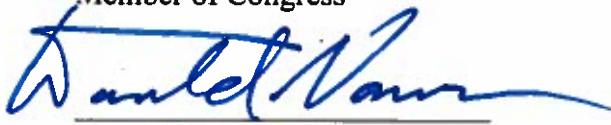

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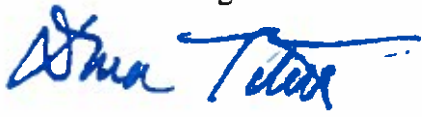

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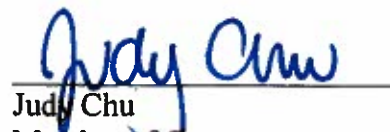

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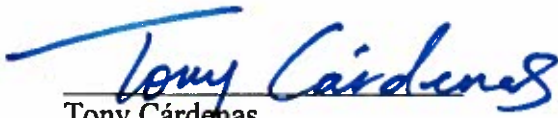
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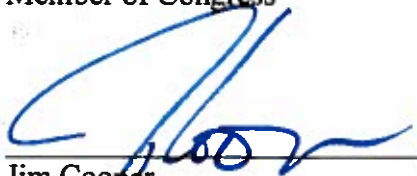
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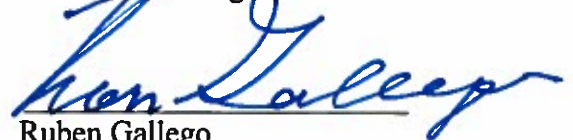
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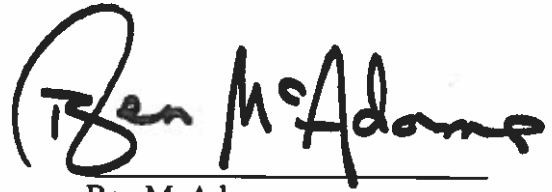
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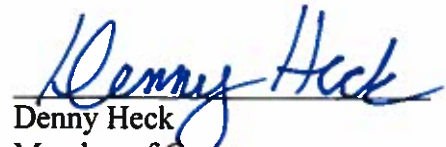
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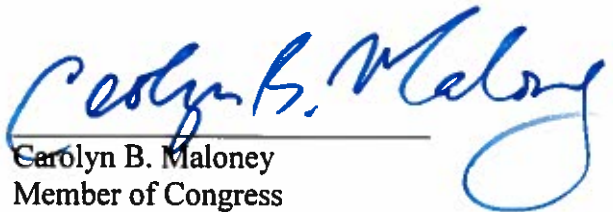
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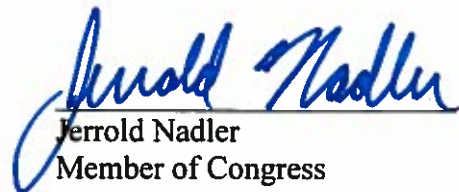
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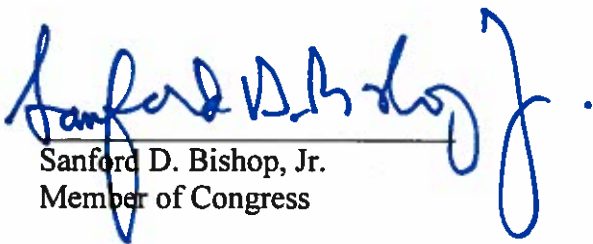
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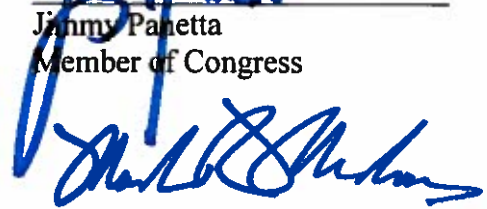
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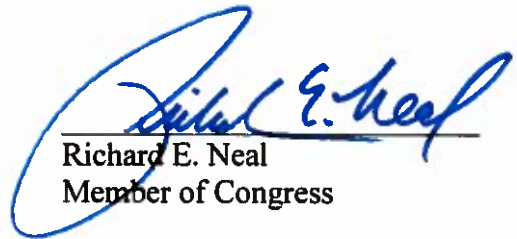
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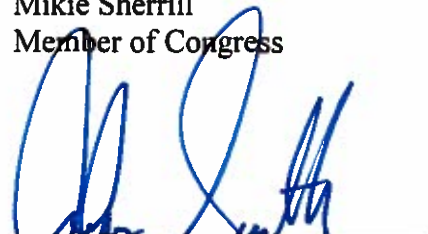
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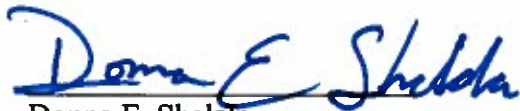

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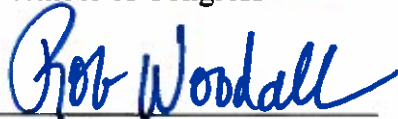

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Donna E. Shalala
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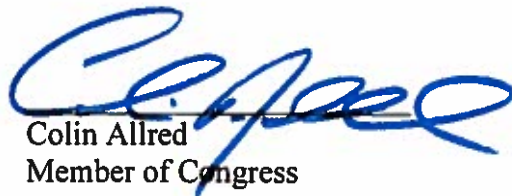
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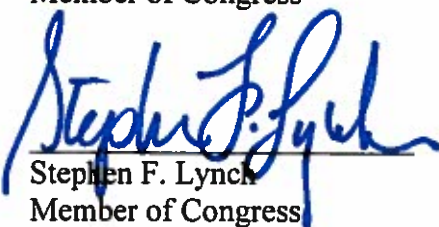
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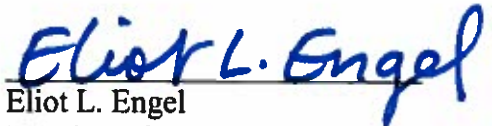
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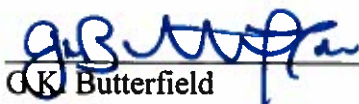
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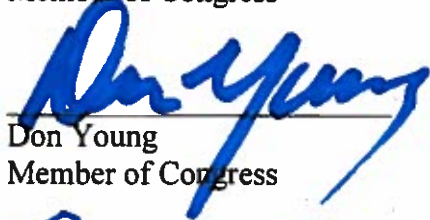
Alma S. Adams, Ph.D
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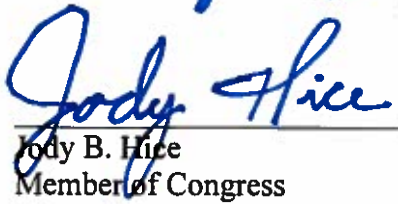
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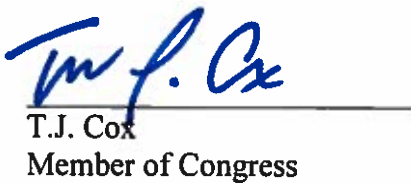
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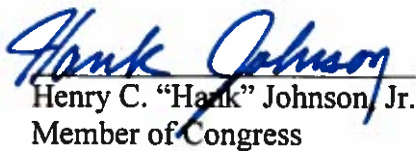
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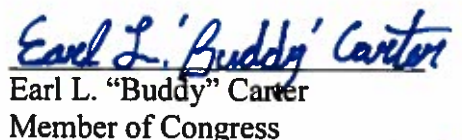
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Jimmy Gomez
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Jim Costa

Jim Costa
Member of Congress

Lou Correa

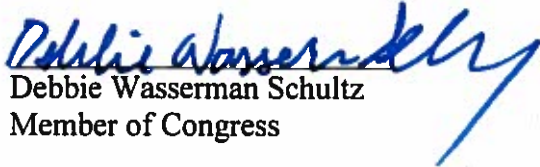
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Mary Gay Scanlon
Member of Congress



Cedric L. Richmond
Member of Congress



Debbie Wasserman Schultz
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