



December 13, 2019

The Honorable Elizabeth Warren
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

**Association of
American Medical Colleges**
655 K Street, NW, Suite 100, Washington, DC 20001-2399
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Dear Senator Warren:

On behalf of the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC), I write to thank you for your legislation, the “National Biomedical Research Act,” which would provide added stability in funding for innovative medical research to improve the lives of patients and their families.

The AAMC is a not-for-profit association dedicated to transforming health care through innovative medical education, cutting-edge patient care, and groundbreaking medical research. Its members are all 154 accredited U.S.; nearly 400 major teaching hospitals and health systems, including 51 Department of Veterans Affairs medical centers; and more than 80 academic societies. Through these institutions and organizations, the AAMC serves the leaders of America’s medical schools and teaching hospitals and their more than 173,000 full-time faculty members, 89,000 medical students, 129,000 resident physicians, and more than 60,000 graduate students and postdoctoral researchers in the biomedical sciences.

We are immensely grateful that Congress has worked over the last several years in a bipartisan, bicameral manner to support above-inflation funding growth for the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Your legislation would build on this important annual commitment by securing additional funding for the NIH and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to help the nation’s scientists and research institutions meet current and emerging health challenges. We especially appreciate that funds provided through the Biomedical Innovation Fund would support a variety of research endeavors, improve the diversity of the biomedical research workforce, and support regulatory science. Sustainable, predictable funding growth for medical research over the long term is key in ensuring that our nation can fully benefit from the wide range of scientific opportunity and build on developing knowledge to improve health.

As you move forward, we note that the expertise of the Appropriations Committee will be valuable to optimize the Fund’s functionality and to avoid any unintended consequences. We welcome the collective and ongoing efforts of Congress in support of medical innovation and appreciate that you continue to make funding for these important agencies a top priority.

Thank you again for your efforts. We look forward to continuing working with you toward our mutual goal of promoting the health of all Americans. If you have any questions regarding this issue, please do not hesitate to contact me or Tannaz Rasouli at trasouli@aamc.org or 202-828-0525.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karen Fisher".

Karen Fisher, JD
Chief Public Policy Officer

cc: Tannaz Rasouli, Senior Director, Public Policy and Strategic Outreach