



THE AD HOC GROUP FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

January 15, 2021

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Chair
Appropriations Committee
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairwoman DeLauro:

On behalf of the Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research, including more than 330 member organizations representing patients, clinicians, scientists, educators, academic and research institutions, and industry, I write to congratulate you on your new role as Chair of the House Appropriations Committee.

The Ad Hoc Group is grateful for your career-defining commitment to improving the health of all, including the federal investment in biomedical, behavioral, social, and population-based research supported by the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Your generosity in sharing your firsthand experiences about the value of medical research has been an enduring inspiration, and we greatly appreciate your longstanding leadership in support of a healthier future for everyone. Thanks to the Labor-HHS-Education Subcommittee, the NIH has experienced historic funding increases in recent years, leading to promising scientific advances. Even with that extraordinary progress, the need persists broadly for funding growth that outpaces biomedical research inflation in FY 2022 and beyond. The Ad Hoc Group looks forward to continuing to work with you to ensure that sustained, meaningful funding growth for all NIH Institutes and Centers continues across the full range of disciplines and disease areas.

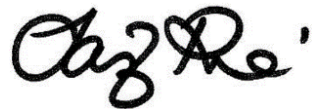
To help achieve this vital objective, our community strongly supports a robust 302(a) discretionary spending total and ample 302(b) allocation for the Labor-HHS-Education Subcommittee that will allow the needed investments in key national public health priorities such as the NIH. We stand ready to work with you and your colleagues on the House and Senate Appropriations and Budget Committees, as well as congressional leaders, toward this goal.

In addition, we are looking forward to working with you to secure additional emergency supplemental funding for the NIH to support research across the full spectrum of scientific disciplines and diseases that has been interrupted as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The disruption from this public health emergency has imposed particular challenges on the career trajectories of graduate students, postdoctoral researchers, and early-career investigators at a time when we should be bolstering the pipeline for the next generation of scientists. Without additional resources, we risk significant setbacks affecting every aspect of the NIH's broad portfolio and our nation's scientific enterprise.

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 that support enhancing the federal investment in the biomedical, behavioral, and population-based research conducted and supported by the NIH.

Thank you again for your tireless dedication to the population's health and well-being, and congratulations again on your new leadership role. We also wish to commend staff members in both your personal and committee offices, including Letty Mederos, Stephen Steigleder, Jennifer Cama, and Caitlin Peruccio, for their efforts every day and over the course of the past year. We hope you will continue to consider the Ad Hoc Group and our community a resource, and we very much look forward to working with you and your colleagues to continue the recent trajectory of robust NIH funding to improve the nation's health.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tannaz Rasouli". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Tannaz" and the last name "Rasouli" clearly distinguishable.

Tannaz Rasouli
Executive Director