

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 14, 2024

The Honorable Patty Murray
Chair
Senate Committee on Appropriations
The Capitol, Room S-128
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Susan Collins
Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Appropriations
The Capitol, Room S-146A
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Tammy Baldwin
Chair
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human
Services, and Education, and
Related Agencies
Dirksen Senate Office Building, Room 136
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human
Services, and Education, and
Related Agencies
Hart Senate Office Building, Room 125
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chair Murray, Vice Chair Collins, Chair Baldwin, and Ranking Member Capito:

As you and your colleagues begin to work on the Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 appropriations bills, we respectfully request that you maintain a strong commitment to funding for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in the Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education FY 2025 Appropriations bill.

In recent years, NIH has been able to advance biomedical innovation and research because of sustained investments. The unprecedented advances in biomedical science over the past several decades would not have been possible without the groundwork laid over many years of investment in basic research. We commend you all for continuing to recognize the critical role supporting the NIH plays in spurring discoveries that will save and improve lives, and for your continued dedication to laying the foundation for new treatments and therapies that may help the United States address our most challenging public health needs. It is essential to continue this federal support for the benefit of the American people and to ensure that our Nation remains at the forefront of medical research.

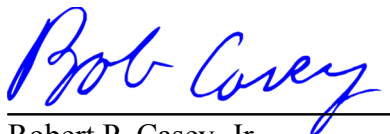
The NIH is our country's premier institution for biomedical innovation, supporting research in all fifty states. This research is essential to developing preventive measures, treatments, and cures for both common and rare diseases, including heart disease, cancer, Alzheimer's, diabetes, mental health illnesses, and substance use disorders, among others. Fully funding this agency is critical if America is going to continue leading the world in biomedical research and advancing cutting-edge research. It is also through NIH-supported, innovative medical research that we will learn more about emerging conditions and conduct early-stage research to rapidly identify solutions to public health challenges. Ballooning expenses associated with chronic medical conditions cost the federal government and private sector more than a trillion dollars annually,

and investing in medical research is one of the best tools in our toolbox to curb these escalating trends.

Our investment in the NIH has supported biomedical research in times of both trial and triumph, such as when NIH-led researchers decoded the human genome, and in times of trial, such as the COVID-19 pandemic. The results of this research contribute to improved health outcomes and economic growth. NIH grants fund basic, clinical and translational research that turns bench-side findings into bedside interventions for patients. NIH supports the work of nearly 38,000 principal investigators and over 300,000 individuals focused on cutting-edge biomedical research at 2,500 institutions across the country. But America has faced challenges in maintaining its position as the world leader in research and development, and many researchers have similarly struggled to secure funding. As NIH grants become more competitive, researchers can easily spend half their careers working before receiving a grant. Sustained NIH funding allows scientists to do what they do best—discover tomorrow’s therapies and cures. It also prevents promising, talented young researchers from leaving the field of biomedical research and ensures that seasoned investigators continue to conduct their research in the United States.

We recognize the difficult choices that need to be made with respect to the budget. If we are to continue grappling with emerging threats, as well as improve the health of Americans and the quality of their lives, we must continue to invest in biomedical research that has the potential to save and improve lives, as well as reduce long-term health care expenditures. As your Committee makes funding decisions for FY 2025, we urge you to consider the tremendous benefits of sustained and robust investment in the NIH, and ask you to remember our Nation’s role as a world leader in biomedical research and the impact this research has on the American people. We also ask that you include the full allocation of funding for the NIH provided by the 21st Century Cures Act. Investing in research today will continue to yield cures and therapies for patients tomorrow.

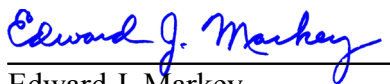
Sincerely,



Robert P. Casey, Jr.
United States Senator



Thom Tillis
United States Senator



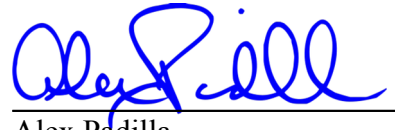
Edward J. Markey
United States Senator



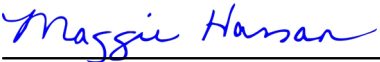
Jack Reed
United States Senator



James E. Risch
United States Senator



Alex Padilla
United States Senator



Margaret Wood Hassan
United States Senator



Jeffrey A. Merkley
United States Senator



Sheldon Whitehouse
United States Senator



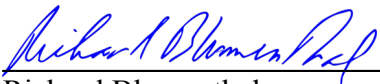
Benjamin L. Cardin
United States Senator



Kirsten Gillibrand
United States Senator



Tim Kaine
United States Senator



Richard Blumenthal
United States Senator



Mike Crapo
United States Senator



Dan Sullivan
United States Senator



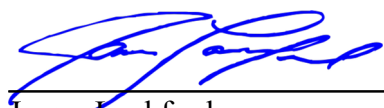
Maria Cantwell
United States Senator



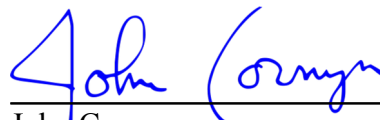
Debbie Stabenow
United States Senator



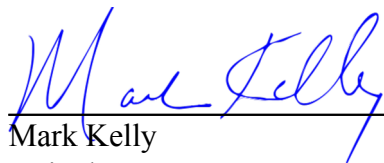
Joe Manchin III
United States Senator



James Lankford
United States Senator



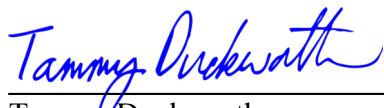
John Cornyn
United States Senator



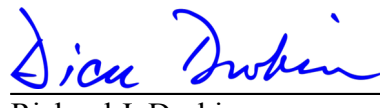
Mark Kelly
United States Senator



Cory A. Booker
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth
United States Senator



Richard J. Durbin
United States Senator



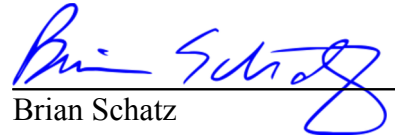
Kevin Cramer
United States Senator



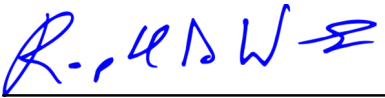
Chris Van Hollen
United States Senator



Peter Welch
United States Senator



Brian Schatz
United States Senator



Raphael Warnock
United States Senator



Laphonza Butler
United States Senator



Mazie K. Hirono
United States Senator



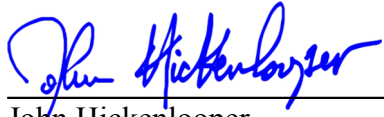
Amy Klobuchar
United States Senator



Jacky Rosen
United States Senator



Gary C. Peters
United States Senator



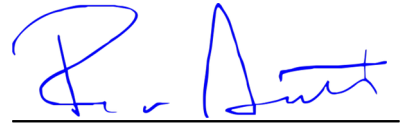
John Hickenlooper
United States Senator



Thomas R. Carper
United States Senator



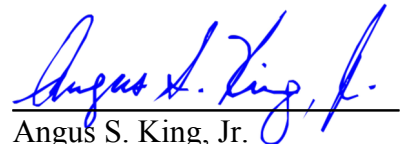
Mark R. Warner
United States Senator



Rick Scott
United States Senator



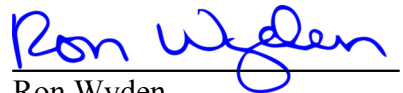
Tina Smith
United States Senator



Angus S. King, Jr.
United States Senator



Sherrod Brown
United States Senator



Ron Wyden
United States Senator



Jeanne Shaheen
United States Senator



Elizabeth Warren
United States Senator



Steve Daines
United States Senator



Catherine Cortez Masto
United States Senator



Christopher S. Murphy
United States Senator



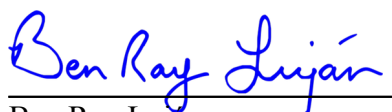
Kyrsten Sinema
United States Senator



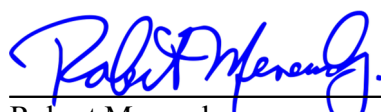
Martin Heinrich
United States Senator



Christopher A. Coons
United States Senator



Ben Ray Lujan
United States Senator



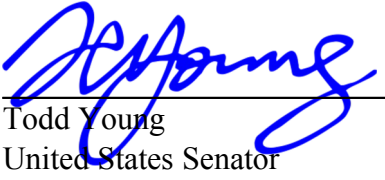
Robert Menendez
United States Senator




Bernard Sanders
United States Senator



Michael F. Bennet
United States Senator



Todd Young
United States Senator



Mike Rounds
United States Senator