



## THE AD HOC GROUP FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

July 26, 2019

United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator:

On behalf of the more than 300 member organizations of the Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research, I write to ask your support for the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2019 ([H.R. 3877](#)), which would avoid catastrophic cuts to essential discretionary spending programs by revising the statutory spending caps for fiscal years (FY) 2020 and 2021. The Ad Hoc Group has one mission: to enhance the federal investment in biomedical, behavioral, social, and population-based research by increasing funding for the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

Our country is known for its outstanding medical research enterprise, but failure to raise the budget caps for FY 2020 will jeopardize our competitive edge in an increasingly innovation-based global marketplace. Without passage of a budget agreement, unworkable caps on discretionary spending as established in the Budget Control Act of 2011 would remain, slowing progress toward cures, denying hope to patients and their families, and impeding our nation's ability to address major public health challenges.

The Ad Hoc Group is appreciative to Congress for its historic and ongoing support for medical research and its commitment to continued, predictable funding growth for NIH. To keep pace with scientific opportunity, we must ensure an investment in NIH in FY 2020, that, at a minimum, matches the funding level approved by the House, and your support for H.R. 3877 would mark a necessary first step in advancing this life-saving research and other discretionary spending priorities in FY 2020 and beyond. This budget deal importantly also avoids the uncertainty and inefficiencies associated with multiple continuing resolutions by allowing appropriations to be completed without further delay.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue. We look forward to working with Congress and the administration to continue the recent trajectory of robust NIH funding in order to improve the health of the nation.

Sincerely,

Tannaz Rasouli  
Executive Director