



THE AD HOC GROUP FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

September 19, 2011

The Honorable Tom Harkin
Chair
Subcommittee on Labor-HHS-Education
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Richard Shelby
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Labor-HHS-Education
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Harkin and Ranking Member Shelby:

The 215 undersigned members of the Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research, a coalition of patient and voluntary health groups, medical and scientific societies, academic and research organizations, and industry, write to respectfully request that the National Institutes of Health (NIH) be recognized as a critical national priority in the FY 2012 Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations bill. These are difficult times for our nation, and sustaining the commitment to science is the key to a better future.

The foundation of scientific knowledge built through NIH-funded research across the country drives medical innovation that improves health and quality of life through new and better diagnostics, improved prevention strategies, and more effective treatments. These discoveries have contributed to increased and improved life expectancy over the past century, offering hope to the millions of patients awaiting the possibility of a healthier tomorrow.

Further, NIH-supported research contributes to the nation's economic strength by catalyzing private sector growth and creating skilled, high-paying jobs; new products and industries; and improved technologies. It is critically important that the nation continue to capitalize on previous investments to drive research progress, train the next generation of scientists, create new jobs, promote economic growth, and maintain leadership in the global innovation economy—particularly as other countries continue to increase their investments in scientific research.

In this challenging budget environment, we recognize the painful decisions that must be made to secure the nation's fiscal stability. However, it is imperative that such efforts recognize the federal role in promoting the prosperity and well-being of the American people. Especially in times like these, continuing the nation's commitment to medical research through NIH is essential to ensuring the health of all Americans and to maintaining U.S. leadership in an increasingly competitive global scientific arena. The Ad Hoc Group strongly recommends that

the FY 2012 Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations bill uphold the longstanding legacy of bipartisan support for the health and economic benefits afforded by an unwavering commitment to NIH.

Sincerely,

Academic Pediatric Association
Academy of Radiology Research
AIDS Action Baltimore
AIDS Alliance for Children, Youth & Families
The AIDS Institute
Albert Einstein College of Medicine
Alliance for Aging Research
Alpha-1 Association
Alpha-1 Foundation
Alzheimer's Association
amfAR, The Foundation for AIDS Research
American Academy of Pediatrics
American Association for Cancer Research
American Association for Dental Research
American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS)
American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases
American Association of Anatomists
American Association of Colleges of Nursing
American Association of Immunologists
American Association of Neurological Surgeons and Congress of Neurological Surgeons
American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons
American Brain Coalition
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network
American Chemical Society
American College of Radiology (ACR)
American College of Rheumatology
The American Dental Education Association
American Diabetes Association
American Gastroenterological Association
American Heart Association
American Liver Foundation
American Lung Association
American Pediatric Society
American Psychiatric Association
American Psychological Association
American Psychosomatic Society
American Physiological Society
American Society for Bone and Mineral Research
American Society for Cell Biology
American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy

American Society for Microbiology
American Society for Pharmacology & Experimental Therapeutics
American Society for Reproductive Medicine
American Society of Clinical Oncology
American Society of Hematology
American Society of Human Genetics
American Society of Pediatric Nephrology
American Society of Plant Biologists
American Society of Nephrology
American Society of Transplantation
American Sociological Association
American Statistical Association
American Thoracic Society
American Tinnitus Association
American Urogynecologic Society
Associated Medical Schools of New York (AMSNY)
Association for Clinical Research Training
Association for Patient-Oriented Research
Association for Psychological Science
Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology
Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries
Association of American Cancer Institutes
Association of American Geographers
Association of American Medical Colleges
Association of American Universities
Association of Independent Research Institutes
Association of Medical School Pediatric Department Chairs
Association of Minority Health Professions Schools
Association of Population Centers
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU)
Association of Schools of Public Health
Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America
AVAC: Global Advocacy for HIV Prevention
Baylor College of Medicine
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston
Biotechnology Industry Organization (BIO)
Biophysical Society
Brown University
Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine
Cedars-Sinai Medical Center
Charles Drew University
The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation
Cleveland Clinic Lerner Research Institute
Clinical Research Forum
City of Hope

Coalition for Imaging and Bioengineering Research
Coalition for the Advancement of Health Through Behavioral and Social
Sciences Research (CAHT-BSSR)
Coalition for Health Services Research
Coalition for the Life Sciences
Coalition of Urban Serving Universities
Coalition to Promote Research (CPR)
Columbia University
Conference of Boston Teaching Hospitals
Consortium of Academic Health Centers for Integrative Medicine
Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA)
COPD Foundation
Cooley's Anemia Foundation
The Cooper Medical School of Rowan University
Cornell University
Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation
Digestive Disease National Coalition
Duke University School of Medicine
Dystonia Medical Research Foundation
Emory University
The Endocrine Society
FasterCures
Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology
Federation of Associations in Behavioral and Brain Sciences (FABBS)
Federation of Pediatric Organizations
Friends of Cancer Research
Georgia Health Sciences University
Health Sciences South Carolina
Heart Rhythm Society
Hepatitis B Foundation
HIV Medicine Association
Howard University Health Sciences
Indiana University
Infectious Diseases Society of America
International Foundation for Functional Gastrointestinal Disorders
Interstitial Cystitis Association
Intracranial Hypertension Research Foundation
Jeffrey Modell Foundation
The Johns Hopkins University
Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation
Lehigh Valley Health Network
Life Technologies
Lung Cancer Alliance
Lupus Research Institute
March of Dimes Foundation

Mayo Clinic
Medical College of Wisconsin
Medical Library Association
MedStar Health
Meharry Medical College
Melanoma Research Alliance
Mesothelioma Applied Research Foundation
MetroHealth System
Michigan State University
Morehouse School of Medicine
The Mount Sinai School of Medicine
National Alliance for Eye and Vision Research (NAEVR)
National Association for Biomedical Research
National Association of Medical Minority Educators (NAMME)
National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors
National Coalition for Osteoporosis and Related Bone Diseases
National Kidney Foundation
National Lung Cancer Partnership
National Marfan Foundation
National Osteoporosis Foundation
National Primate Research Centers
National Psoriasis Foundation
Nationwide Children's Hospital
NephCure Foundation
The New York Stem Cell Foundation
Northeastern University
Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine
Oregon Health & Science University
Osteogenesis Imperfecta Foundation
Paget and Bone Cancer Foundations
Pancreatic Cancer Action Network
Parkinson's Action Network
PKD Foundation
Penn Medicine
Population Association of America
Pulmonary Hypertension Association
Research!America
Saint Louis University
Scleroderma Foundation
Sjögren's Syndrome Foundation
Sleep Research Society
Society of Behavioral Medicine
Society for Clinical and Translational Science
Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics (SIAM)
Society for Investigative Dermatology
Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine

Society for Neuroscience
Society for Pediatric Research
Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR)
Society for Women's Health Research (SWHR)
Society of General Internal Medicine
Society of Gynecologic Oncology
Stanford University School of Medicine
Stony Brook University Medical Center
Treatment Action Group (TAG)
Tuberous Sclerosis Alliance
The University at Buffalo
University of Arizona
University of California System
The University of Chicago
University of Cincinnati
University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus
University of Connecticut Health Center
University of Illinois
University of Central Florida
University of Massachusetts Medical School
University of Michigan, Michigan Institute for Clinical and Health Research
University of Minnesota
University of Nebraska Medical Center
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine
University of Rochester Medical Center
University of South Florida/USF Health
University of Texas System
University of Utah Health Sciences
University of Virginia
University of Washington
University of Wisconsin-Madison
U.S. Hereditary Angioedema Association
Vanderbilt University
Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center
Wake Forest University School of Medicine
Washington University in St. Louis
Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine