



THE AD HOC GROUP FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

October 4, 2018

The Honorable Roy Blunt
Chair
Subcommittee on Labor-HHS- Education
Appropriations Committee
United States Senate

The Honorable Patty Murray
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Labor-HHS- Education
Appropriations Committee
United States Senate

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chair
Subcommittee on Labor-HHS-Education
Appropriations Committee
United States House of Representatives

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Labor-HHS-Education
Appropriations Committee
United States House of Representatives

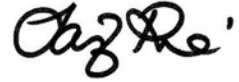
Dear Chairmen Blunt and Cole, and Ranking Members Murray and DeLauro:

The Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research, a coalition of over 300 patient and voluntary health groups, medical and scientific societies, academic and research organizations, and industry, dedicated to enhancing the federal investment in biomedical, behavioral, social, and population-based research supported by the National Institutes of Health (NIH), writes to express our deepest appreciation for your unwavering commitment to medical research, including your laudable bipartisan efforts to finalize and pass the fiscal year (FY) 2019 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies (Labor-HHS) appropriations bill. As you know, the \$2 billion increase for medical research in FY 2019 translates to real hope and opportunity for every patient awaiting a cure, every researcher working toward the next breakthrough, and every aspiring scientist considering a career in the lab.

The \$9 billion in NIH funding increases that you have championed for the last four fiscal years has been instrumental in positioning the NIH to seize on an abundant array of scientific opportunity, and in helping the agency begin to recover lost purchasing power. As researchers often note, the greatest medical breakthroughs build upon previous discoveries through continued, steady and robust support for the NIH. Building on the foundation of the last three years, the FY 2019 spending bill will enable meaningful growth across the full spectrum of research supported by the NIH, while positively impacting local economies in every state and Washington, D.C. Your work to shepherd this sustained investment in NIH acts as a catalyst for a steady pipeline of basic research discoveries and helps advance the translational and clinical efforts necessary to improve the detection, diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of disease.

Thank you for your steadfast support for biomedical research and the hope it provides to patients across the country. We look forward to continuing to work with you to highlight the importance of investing in the NIH.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tannaz Rasouli'.

Tannaz Rasouli
Executive Director
The Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research