



THE AD HOC GROUP FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

December 9, 2010

Dear Senator:

The Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research, which represents nearly 300 patient groups, scientific and medical societies, research institutions and industry organizations, respectfully urges you to support passage of the FY 2011 omnibus appropriations bill, which includes an increase of \$750 million for the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

A long-term, continuing resolution (CR) at the FY 2010 spending levels will slow research progress and squander invaluable scientific opportunities, to the detriment of our nation's health and our ability to maintain leadership in the global innovation economy. Recent investments have created dramatic new research opportunities in areas ranging from genetics to behavioral research, spurring advancements and precipitating the promise of personalized medicine that will yield far-reaching health and economic benefits. Trials to find new therapies for cancer, the development of tools to help public health workers respond to emerging infectious diseases, and continued efforts to develop an artificial pancreas that could help the 23 million Americans struggling with diabetes, are just a few of the important projects that could be delayed under a long-term CR.

It is critically important that we continue to capitalize on the momentum of previous investments to drive research progress, train the next generation of scientists, create jobs, and promote economic growth. The Ad Hoc Group strongly supports the \$750 million increase proposed in the FY 2011 omnibus spending bill. The American people are depending on you to ensure the nation does not lose the health and economic benefits of our extraordinary commitment to medical research. Further, the nation needs Congress to take the next crucial step towards a course of sustained NIH funding by passing the omnibus appropriations bill. We look forward to working with you to continue to improve the health of the American people through medical research.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'David B. Moore'.

David B. Moore
Executive Director