

THE AD HOC GROUP FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

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Ad Hoc Group Statement on NIH Funding in the Senate Appropriations Committee's Labor-HHS Bill for FY 2024

July 28, 2023 – The Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research issued the following statement regarding funding for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in the (FY) 2024 Labor-HHS-Education spending bill (S. 2624) approved by the Senate Appropriations Committee on July 27:

"The Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research appreciates the Committee's bipartisan efforts to preserve funding for medical research, one of our nation's greatest assets in combatting debilitating health challenges that affect patients, families, and communities everywhere. Particularly in the context of the current constrained fiscal environment, we are grateful that the bill invests in the NIH by reversing scheduled cuts to funding from the 21st Century Cures Act.

To maximize the opportunities that medical research provides to improve health, we must continue predictable, robust growth in NIH investment. As a result of the steadfast, bipartisan commitment to medical research in the last eight years, Congress recently has come close to restoring the purchasing power lost after 15 years of inflation-adjusted declines. We cannot lose momentum by slowing this progress at a pivotal time when we are experiencing advancements and breakthroughs in areas such as genomics, immunotherapy, precision medicine, and infectious disease research, among other key areas. For these reasons, in March, nearly 400 organizations representing patients, clinicians, scientists, educators, academic and research institutions, industry, and other stakeholders joined in recommending at least \$51 billion for the NIH's base program level as necessary to capitalize on the abundance of scientific opportunity and to strengthen our medical research workforce.

The Ad Hoc Group stands ready to continue working with the Committee and all lawmakers to renew the bipartisan commitment to recognize medical research supported by the National Institutes of Health as a key national priority."

The Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research is a coalition of nearly 400 patient and voluntary health groups, medical and scientific societies, academic and research organizations, and industry. The Ad Hoc Group has one mission: to enhance the federal investment in biomedical, behavioral, social, and population-based research by increasing the funding for the National Institutes of Health.