Dear Chairwoman DeLauro and Ranking Member Cole:

As Members of Congress who value the critical role the National Institutes of Health (NIH) plays in better health outcomes, global competitiveness, job creation, education, and economic growth, we respectfully request that the program level for the agency’s base in Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 should be at least $49 billion and that any funding for the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health should supplement, not supplant, this necessary growth in the NIH base budget.

From longstanding challenges like cancer, Alzheimer’s, and heart disease, to emerging threats like the long-term health impacts of COVID-19 infections, the research that NIH supports in labs nationwide has a profound impact on patients, families, and communities. In a time of unprecedented scientific opportunity across all disease areas, it is critical that the United States make forward-thinking investments that promote medical breakthroughs, prepare for future pandemics, and sustain our international leadership in biomedical research.

In the last few years, medical research has led to new therapies that are transforming patient care for diseases such as sickle cell disease, cystic fibrosis, and through the use of CAR-T cells, certain types of cancer. NIH-funded researchers, working in concert with the private sector, were also able to transform this existing infrastructure into novel diagnostics, therapeutics, and vaccines to combat COVID-19. Providing $49 billion for the NIH would build on the traditional bipartisan commitment to NIH-supported research that has made such accomplishments possible. We are at the tip of the iceberg of new life-saving innovations. Imagine what we can accomplish with more robust investments in medical research, from making strides to combat antimicrobial resistance, to harnessing the power of personalized medicine to treat disease, and more. The critical investments we make in biomedical research are our nation's best hope in finding cures, prevention measures, and treatments for diseases that affect millions of Americans. For these reasons, hundreds of organizations representing patients, scientists, health professionals, educators, institutions, and industry support this funding recommendation.

The agency conducts research that is too expensive and risky for private industry to undertake alone. Noncommercial basic and clinical research funded by NIH, coupled with private sector innovation, has led to major achievements in our understanding of rare diseases and disorders, as
well as historically prevalent diseases like ALS, substance use disorders, stroke, and Parkinson's. In addition to bettering the lives of millions, NIH funding supports over 300,000 non-federal scientists and technical personnel at 2,500 research universities and facilities nationwide. Their work drives the demand for medical supplies and research equipment. NIH funding ripples far beyond its headquarters in Bethesda, Maryland, to benefit manufacturers and suppliers in every state and many U.S. territories. In light of the difficult budget decisions you face, we want to stress the importance of NIH not only as a research agency improving the health of all Americans, but also as a job creator, driver of economic growth, and a vital leader in curbing our nation's soaring healthcare costs.

We appreciate your consideration of our request to provide at least $49 billion in funding for the NIH base budget in FY 2023.

Sincerely,

André Carson  
Member of Congress

Suzan K. DelBene  
Member of Congress

David B. McKinley, P.E.  
Member of Congress

Brian Fitzpatrick  
Member of Congress

Stephen F. Lynch  
Member of Congress

Joyce Beatty  
Member of Congress
Eric Swalwell  
Member of Congress

Carolyn B. Maloney  
Member of Congress

Stacey E. Plaskett  
Member of Congress

Chris Pappas  
Member of Congress

Jahana Hayes  
Member of Congress

Rick Larsen  
Member of Congress

James R. Langevin  
Member of Congress

Mark DeSaulnier  
Member of Congress

Juan Vargas  
Member of Congress

Debbie Dingell  
Member of Congress
Jennifer González-Colón
Member of Congress

Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress

Al Green
Member of Congress

Gerald E. Connolly
Member of Congress

Tom Malinowski
Member of Congress

Gwen S. Moore
Member of Congress

Colin Z. Allred
Member of Congress

Elaine G. Luria
Member of Congress

Earl Blumenauer
Member of Congress

Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.
Member of Congress
Bobby L. Rush  
Member of Congress

Grace F. Napolitano  
Member of Congress

Emanuel Cleaver, II  
Member of Congress

Nanette Diaz Barragán  
Member of Congress

Andrew R. Garbarino  
Member of Congress

Donald S. Beyer Jr.  
Member of Congress

Bennie G. Thompson  
Member of Congress

Jerry McNerney  
Member of Congress

Glenn "GT" Thompson  
Member of Congress

Peter A. DeFazio  
Member of Congress
Anthony G. Brown
Member of Congress

Troy Carter
Member of Congress

MARK TAKANO
Member of Congress

Veronica Escobar
Member of Congress

Sean Patrick Maloney
Member of Congress

James P. McGovern
Member of Congress

Ayanna Pressley
Member of Congress

Al Lawson
Member of Congress

Frank J. Mrván
Member of Congress

John B. Larson
Member of Congress
John Yarmuth
Member of Congress

Nikema Williams
Member of Congress

Salud Carbajal
Member of Congress

Tony Cárdenes
Member of Congress

Scott H. Peters
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Thomas R. Suozzi
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Chellie Pingree
Member of Congress

Doris Matsui
Member of Congress

Conor Lamb
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Aumua Amata Coleman
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Diana DeGette  
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Mike Thompson  
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Ann McLane Kuster  
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Aricia G. Eshoo  
Member of Congress

Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.  
Member of Congress

Vicente Gonzalez  
Member of Congress

Elissa Slotkin  
Member of Congress

David N. Cicilline  
Member of Congress

Andy Kim  
Member of Congress

Ro Khanna  
Member of Congress
Ted W. Lieu  
Member of Congress

Don Bacon  
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Michael R. Turner  
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Mary Gay Scanlon  
Member of Congress

Rodney Davis  
Member of Congress

Joseph D. Morelle  
Member of Congress

Richard Hudson  
Member of Congress

Raul Ruiz, M.D.  
Member of Congress

Donald Norcross  
Member of Congress

Abigail Davis Spanberger  
Member of Congress
Pramila Jayapal  
Member of Congress

Seth Moulton  
Member of Congress

Jared Huffman  
Member of Congress

A. Drew Ferguson IV  
Member of Congress

Mondaire Jones  
Member of Congress

Nicole Malliotakis  
Member of Congress

Deborah K. Ross  
Member of Congress

Frederica S. Wilson  
Member of Congress

Eleanor Holmes Norton  
Member of Congress

William R. Keating  
Member of Congress
Robert C. "Bobby" Scott  
Member of Congress

Paul D. Tonko  
Member of Congress

Adam B. Schiff  
Member of Congress

Ilhan Omar  
Member of Congress

Jamaal Bowman, Ed.D.  
Member of Congress

Adam Kinzinger  
Member of Congress

Carolyn Bourdeaux  
Member of Congress

John Garamendi  
Member of Congress

Joaquin Castro  
Member of Congress

Brad Sherman  
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David E. Price  
Member of Congress

Jim Himes  
Member of Congress

Daniel T. Kildee  
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Melanie Stansbury  
Member of Congress

Bruce Westerman  
Member of Congress

Alma S. Adams, Ph.D.  
Member of Congress

Raja Krishnamoorthi  
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Terri A. Sewell  
Member of Congress

Robin L. Kelly  
Member of Congress

Andy Levin  
Member of Congress