

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

August 6, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Minority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Leader McCarthy:

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and resulting lockdowns, our nation's biomedical research has been badly shaken and will require years of work to restore lost productivity if immediate action is not taken. In fact, according to recent witness testimony from the Director of the National Institutes of Health, Dr. Francis Collins, the coronavirus pandemic has caused over \$10 billion in lost research alone. This doesn't account for the additional \$8 billion worth of high value COVID research initiatives and projects ready to go across NIH institute and centers.

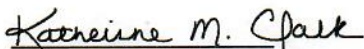
To meet the urgent public health needs and to avoid significant harm to America's research pipeline, we request that the House support the Senate's proposal of a minimum of \$15.5 billion in funding for NIH in the next COVID-19 relief package.

A majority of our researchers have been unable to continue their work while away from their labs, and the impact will be felt for years to come. These disruptions will add a significant delay in our understanding of dangerous diseases as well as cutting-edge treatments to improve quality of life for those suffering from them. Beyond that, this major slowdown places NIH's economic engine of over \$81 billion and nearly 476,000 jobs across the U.S. at great risk.

Whether it's treating and eradicating the Covid-19 pandemic or continuing groundbreaking research toward deadly diseases such as cancer, Alzheimer's, heart disease and more, the NIH is at the forefront of improving and saving lives. This important work takes place in our universities in every state and produces results that drive our nation's health care forward.

Securing sustainable, robust funding for NIH has long been a bipartisan priority in Congress, and the coronavirus pandemic has created an even greater urgency to work together to provide the agency the necessary resources to be successful. Congress providing at least \$15.5 billion for NIH in this next relief package will ensure the health of all Americans for years to come and protect our position as the global leader in biomedical research.

Sincerely,

  
Katherine Clark  
Member of Congress

  
John Moolenaar  
Member of Congress

Suzanne Bonamici  
Member of Congress

Pete King  
Member of Congress

G. K. Butterfield  
Member of Congress

André Carson  
Member of Congress

Mark DeSaulnier  
Member of Congress

Adriano Espaillat  
Member of Congress

Tony Cárdenas  
Member of Congress

John Garamendi  
Member of Congress

Denny Heck  
Member of Congress

Derek Kilmer  
Member of Congress

Conor Lamb  
Member of Congress

Susie Lee  
Member of Congress

Grace Meng  
Member of Congress

Grace F. Napolitano  
Member of Congress

Scott Peters  
Member of Congress

Ayanna Pressley  
Member of Congress

Stephen F. Lynch  
Member of Congress

Brian Fitzpatrick  
Member of Congress

Susan A. Davis  
Member of Congress

Debbie Dingell  
Member of Congress

Abby Finkenauer  
Member of Congress

Bill Foster  
Member of Congress

Jahana Hayes  
Member of Congress

Joseph P. Kennedy, III  
Member of Congress

Cheri Bustos  
Member of Congress

Barbara Lee  
Member of Congress

Mike Levin  
Member of Congress

Seth Moulton  
Member of Congress

Joe Neguse  
Member of Congress

Mark Pocan  
Member of Congress

Jamie Raskin  
Member of Congress

Eric Swalwell  
Member of Congress

Lori Trahan  
Member of Congress

Jennifer Wexton  
Member of Congress

John P. Sarbanes  
Member of Congress

Jason Crow  
Member of Congress

Andy Kim  
Member of Congress

Albio Sires  
Member of Congress

Juan Vargas  
Member of Congress

David Trone  
Member of Congress

C. A. Dutch Ruppertsberger  
Member of Congress

Donald Norcross  
Member of Congress

Donald Payne, Jr.  
Member of Congress