



## THE AD HOC GROUP FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

### Ad Hoc Group Weekly Round Up

May 19, 2025

## NEWS

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#### Senate Labor-HHS Appropriations Subcommittee Issues Outside Witness Testimony Instructions

The [Senate Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies \(Labor-HHS\) Appropriations Subcommittee](#), which has jurisdiction over NIH funding, [issued instructions](#) for submitting outside witness testimony. The deadline to submit written testimony is June 13. This follows the April 10 [release of guidance](#) on programmatic, language, and congressionally directed spending requests.

#### HHS Secretary Testifies on HHS Budget Request

On May 14, the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) and the House Appropriations, Labor, Health, and Human Services (L-HHS) Subcommittee both held hearings to review President [Donald Trump's proposed fiscal year \(FY\) 2026 budget request](#) for the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Lawmakers questioned HHS Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. about the agency's reorganization, reductions in force, and proposed funding cuts to biomedical research, among other issues. House Appropriations L-HHS Subcommittee Ranking Member Rosa DeLauro (D-Conn.) voiced apprehensions regarding the disruptions to the distribution of congressionally appropriated funds to NIH and the CDC, pressing Kennedy to commit to fully utilizing all congressionally appropriated funds, to which he agreed.

#### NIH releases guidance on peer review

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) on May 7 released a [notice reiterating that all grant applications](#) using specific activity codes (most research project grant applications) with due dates on or after January 25, 2025, will be reviewed using a

[simplified peer-review process](#). The agency also released a [list of funding notices](#) that will have an early expiration date related to the simplified review framework.

## **Senator Sanders Releases Report on Impact on Science of Administration's Actions**

On May 13, Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee Ranking Member Bernie Sanders (I-VT) [released a report](#) uncovering the impact of President Trump's "unprecedented and illegal attack on science and scientists." [The report](#) relies on interviews conducted by the HELP Committee Minority Staff with numerous federal scientists, workers, and experts. It describes examples of changes in federal scientists' communications with the media and others, public access to scientific data, funding support, and HHS personnel.. Among other findings, the report indicates that NIH "has committed \$2.7 billion less to researchers searching for new cures through March, compared to the same timeframe last year, representing a 35 percent cut."

## **Upcoming Events**

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### **New Welch, Baldwin to Host Two-Day Forum on Mass Firings at HHS – May 20 and May 21**

Sen. Peter Welch (D-Vt.) and Sen. Tammy Baldwin (D-Wis.) will lead their Democratic colleagues in holding a two-day forum to examine the human harm caused by the shuttering of key departments and mass firings of health experts at HHS. The forum will feature former officials from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the Administration for Children and Families (ACF), the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), the Administration for Community Living (ACL), and the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

#### **DATE and TIME:**

##### **Tuesday, May 20**

Time: 3:00–4:30PM

Location: SD-G50

[Watch via livestream](#)

##### **Wednesday, May 21**

Time: 3:00–4:30PM

Location: SD-106

[Watch via livestream](#)

[Go here](#) to learn more.

### **Coalition of Skin Diseases (CSD) Congressional Briefing – May 20**

The [Coalition of Skin Diseases \(CSD\)](#) will be in D.C. for their Hill Day next month (May 18 - 20), where 100 patient advocates will be meeting with their legislators to ask for [legislative and policy changes](#) that would positively affect the 84 million Americans with a skin disease. Please join us for our congressional briefing entitled, "[Skin Diseases: How Science, PBMs, and Access to Care are Impacting 84 Million Americans](#)." The briefing will be held on Tuesday, May 20, at noon ET in the Cannon Caucus Room; free lunch will be provided.

## **SIGN-ON LETTERS**

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### **New Community Letter opposing the SPARE Act – Deadline May 23**

FASEB is circulating a letter opposing the SPARE Act, a bill seeking to end federal funding for animal research. [Go here](#) to review a copy of the full letter. Interested organizations can [go here](#) to sign on to the letter using the form. No further changes or edits will be made to the letter, and organizations must sign on to the letter as is. The deadline to sign on is Friday, May 23, by close of business (COB).

## **REQUEST FOR PUBLIC COMMENT & FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

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### **New NIH Issues Requests for Information**

On May 14, the National Library of Medicine (NLM) and the National Cancer Institute separately released two RFIs due on July 14 and July 29, respectively. [NLM seeks input on biomedical informatics and data science](#) research gaps and opportunities that NLM can address through its extramural research programs; and the NCI seeks input on artificial intelligence benchmarks in the advancement, development, evaluation, and validation [of AI applications in cancer research and care](#).

## **Job Postings**

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## **Coordinator, Government Relations, Radiological Society of North America**

The Radiological Society of North America ([RSNA](#)) is seeking a talented individual who is eager to support the field of radiology through excellent health and public policy work. Located in the Metro DC Area, this position is a hybrid role requiring some travel and offers opportunities for growth. The Coordinator: Government Relations will leverage knowledge of public policy and project management skills to actively research and track legislative developments and provide support for advocacy activities. The position will manage the department's communications by providing timely updates across various channels, including the RSNA Government Relations website. Qualifications include: bachelor's degree in health or public policy, science, political science, or related field; excellent verbal and written communication skills; ability to communicate professionally with individuals at all levels; strong attention to detail; time management and prioritization skills; and interest and/or experience in federal health and/or science policy and/or nonprofit government relations. Learn more and [apply here](#).

## **Senior Specialist, Science Policy, Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC)**

The AAMC seeks a Senior Specialist for Science Policy to support the science policy activities and initiatives of the Scientific Affairs cluster and contribute to the work and deliverables of the Science Policy and Regulatory team, which focuses on federal agency activity. Working closely with senior leadership in Scientific Affairs, this position develops key written deliverables intended for internal and external audiences. Qualifications include a Bachelor's degree or equivalent work experience (Master's preferred), five to seven years of related work experience, a minimum of four years with direct involvement in science policy, excellent written and oral communication skills, including demonstrated ability to create timely and accurate synopses of technical information and/or meetings, meticulous attention to detail across projects, communications, and responsibilities, commitment to incorporating feedback and instruction into future work products, organizational skills, including the ability to multi-task, collaborate with others, prioritize work and issues appropriately, and manage multiple projects simultaneously, and strong interpersonal skills to engage with constituents and policymakers through professional and effective communication. [Click here to learn more](#).

## **Resident Supervisor – Summer Student Program, The Jackson Laboratory for Genomic Medicine (JAX-GM)**

The Jackson Laboratory for Genomic Medicine (JAX-GM) seeks a Resident Supervisor for the JAX Summer Student Program (SSP). The Resident Supervisor will manage the residential life program within the JAX SSP, including mentoring, day-to-day logistics, and recreational activities. With oversight and guidance from the Program Director of Undergraduate and STEM Education, support from the Residential Life staff at the University of St. Joseph, and in partnership with the Resident Assistant, the Resident Supervisor will facilitate engaging and community-building programs and activities, foster community harmony through communication and problem-solving, and ensure student safety through awareness and compliance with JAX policies. [Go here to learn more and apply.](#)

**Please Note:** If you have information of interest to the NIH advocacy community that you would like to share with the Ad Hoc Group, please forward it to Tannaz Rasouli at [trasouli@aamc.org](mailto:trasouli@aamc.org).

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