



September 7, 2016

The Honorable Roy Blunt  
Chair  
Subcommittee on Labor-HHS-Education  
Appropriations Committee  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patty Murray  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Labor-HHS-Education  
Appropriations Committee  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Chair  
Subcommittee on Labor-HHS-Education  
Appropriations Committee  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Labor-HHS-Education  
Appropriations Committee  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Thad Cochran  
Chair  
Appropriations Committee  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Barbara Mikulski  
Ranking Member  
Appropriations Committee  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Harold Rogers  
Chair  
Appropriations Committee  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nita Lowey  
Ranking Member  
Appropriations Committee  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairmen Blunt, Cole, Cochran, and Rogers, and Ranking Members Murray, DeLauro, Mikulski, and Lowey:

The 210 undersigned members of the Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research write to thank you for your leadership in championing sustained, real growth in medical research funding, and to urge inclusion of the Senate-proposed \$34.1 billion for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in a final fiscal year (FY) 2017 spending package by the end of this calendar year. The Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research is a coalition of patient and voluntary health groups, medical and scientific societies, academic and research organizations, and industry, dedicated to enhancing the federal investment in biomedical, behavioral, social, and population-based research supported by NIH.

Your bipartisan commitment to reliable and meaningful growth in the NIH budget is essential in enabling researchers at universities and research institutions in all 50 states to pursue emerging scientific opportunities to address the nation's most pressing health needs. As you know, in addition to bringing hope and improved health to patients, the ongoing success of the medical research enterprise also drives local and national economic activity, strengthens U.S. competitiveness in an increasingly innovation-based global marketplace, and inspires future generations of scientists to commit to careers in research.

Continuing the momentum of your FY 2016 investment in NIH is key to ensuring that the nation can continue to accelerate the development of life-changing cures, pioneering treatments, and innovative preventive strategies. Our organizations strongly support an approach to the final FY 2017 spending package that maximizes the federal support for NIH and avoids a long-term continuing resolution (CR). Aside from the budget implications, a long-term CR would create inefficiencies and add uncertainty to a system that is already under stress. We strongly urge lawmakers to make finalizing the FY 2017 appropriations a priority.

Additionally, while we all support a robust investment in NIH in the final package, many of our organizations also support investments across the health care continuum that complement and extend NIH's work. We recognize the challenge that appropriators face drafting spending bills under impractical budget caps; we encourage Congress and the Administration to work in a bipartisan manner to relieve pressure on discretionary spending and ensure any final budget agreements reflect a strong commitment to the nation's health.

Once again, we commend you for continuing to recognize NIH as a critical national priority, and we look forward to working with you to secure \$34.1 billion for the agency in FY 2017.

Sincerely,

Academic Pediatric Association  
Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics  
Academy of Radiology Research  
AcademyHealth  
ACT for NIH: Advancing Cures Today  
Adult Congenital Heart Association  
Alliance for Aging Research  
Alpha-1 Foundation  
Alzheimer's Association  
American Academy of Pediatrics  
American Association for Cancer Research  
American Association for Dental Research  
American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases  
American Association of Colleges of Nursing  
American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy  
American Association of Geographers  
American Association of Immunologists  
American Association of Kidney Patients

American Association of Neurological Surgeons  
American Association of Neuromuscular and Electrodiagnostic Medicine  
American Brain Coalition  
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network  
American College of Cardiology  
American College of Rheumatology  
American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists  
American Heart Association  
American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering  
American Lung Association  
American Pediatric Society  
American Physiological Society  
American Psychological Association  
American Psychosomatic Society  
American Society for Bone and Mineral Research  
American Society for Microbiology  
American Society for Nutrition  
American Society of Clinical Oncology  
American Society of Hematology  
American Society of Nephrology  
American Society of Pediatric Nephrology  
American Sociological Association  
American Statistical Association  
American Thoracic Society  
American Urogynecologic Society  
American Urological Association  
American Veterinary Medical Association  
Arizona State University  
Association for Applied Psychophysiology and Biofeedback  
Association for Clinical and Translational Science  
Association for Psychological Science  
Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology  
Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries  
Association of American Cancer Institutes  
Association of American Medical Colleges  
Association of American Universities  
Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges  
Association of Independent Research Institutes  
Association of Medical School Pediatric Department Chairs  
Association of Pathology Chairs  
Association of Population Centers  
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities  
Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health  
AVAC  
Baumont Health  
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston

Biophysical Society  
Boston University School of Medicine  
Case Western Reserve University  
Cedars-Sinai  
Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences at Stanford University  
Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation  
Coalition for Clinical and Translational Science  
Coalition for Enhancing Diversity in Science (CEDS)  
Coalition for the Life Sciences  
Coalition to Promote Research (CPR)  
Cognitive Science Society  
Columbia University  
Conference of Boston Teaching Hospitals  
Congress of Neurological Surgeons  
Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA)  
Cooley's Anemia Foundation  
Cornell University  
Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America  
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation  
David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA  
Digestive Disease National Coalition  
Duke University  
Dystonia Medical Research Foundation  
East Carolina University - The Brody School of Medicine  
Eastern Virginia Medical School  
Emory University  
Endocrine Society  
Epilepsy Foundation  
Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology  
Federation of Associations in Behavioral and Brain Sciences  
Florida International University  
Friends of NIH Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (Friends of NIH BSSR)  
Friends of the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research  
GBS|CIDP Foundation International  
Harvard University  
Heart Failure Society of America  
Hepatitis B Foundation  
Hepatitis Foundation International  
HIV Medicine Association  
Indiana University  
Infectious Diseases Society of America  
International Foundation for Functional Gastrointestinal Disorders  
Interstitial Cystitis Association  
JDRF  
Jeffrey Modell Foundation  
Johns Hopkins University

Lancaster General Health/Penn Medicine  
Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University  
Lupus Foundation of America  
Lupus Research Alliance  
March of Dimes  
Mayo Clinic  
Medical College of Wisconsin  
Medical Library Association  
Michigan State University  
Movers & Shakers Parkinson Advocacy and Education Organization  
Muscular Dystrophy Association  
National Alliance for Eye and Vision Research  
National Alopecia Areata Foundation  
National Association for Biomedical Research  
National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors  
National Coalition for Cancer Research  
National Hemophilia Foundation  
National Kidney Foundation  
NephCure Kidney International  
New York Medical College  
Northeastern University  
NYU Langone Medical Center  
Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine (OUWB)  
Oley Foundation  
Oregon Health & Science University  
Organic Acidemia Association  
Pancreatic Cancer Action Network  
Pediatric Policy Council  
Penn Medicine  
Penn State University  
Polycystic Kidney Foundation  
Population Association of America  
Pulmonary Hypertension Association  
Research!America  
Scleroderma Foundation  
Simon Foundation  
Sjögren's Syndrome Foundation  
Sleep Research Society  
Society for Health Psychology  
Society for Investigative Dermatology  
Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine  
Society for Neuroscience  
Society for Pediatric Research  
Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues  
Society of Behavioral Medicine  
Society of General Internal Medicine

Society of Gynecologic Oncology  
Stanford University School of Medicine  
Stony Brook Medicine  
Summa Health  
Texas Tech University System  
The American College of Radiology (ACR)  
The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia  
The Clinical Research Forum  
The Commonwealth Medical College  
The Marfan Foundation  
The Michael J. Fox Foundation  
The University of Texas System  
Tufts University  
U.S. Hereditary Angioedema Association  
UC Davis Health System  
UC Irvine Health  
UC San Diego Health  
Unite 2 Fight Paralysis  
United Ostomy Associations of America, Inc  
University of Arizona  
University of California System  
University of Cincinnati  
University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus  
University of Colorado Boulder  
University of Delaware  
University of Hawai'i John Burns School of Medicine  
University of Illinois College of Medicine  
University of Iowa Roy J. and Lucille A. Carver College of Medicine  
University of Kansas  
University of Massachusetts Medical School  
University of Michigan  
University of Michigan Health System  
University of Missouri System  
University of Nebraska Medical Center  
University of New Mexico  
University of North Carolina School of Medicine  
University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences  
University of Oregon  
University of Pittsburgh  
University of Rochester  
University of South Florida Health  
University of Vermont  
University of Virginia  
University of Washington  
University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health  
UsAgainstAlzheimer's

UT Health| The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston  
UT Southwestern Medical Center  
Vanderbilt University  
Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center  
Washington State University  
Washington University in St. Louis  
West Virginia University School of Medicine  
Western Michigan University Homer Stryker, M.D. School of Medicine  
Yale University

cc:

The Honorable Paul Ryan, Speaker of the House  
The Honorable Kevin McCarthy, House Majority Leader  
The Honorable Nancy Pelosi, House Minority Leader  
The Honorable Mitch McConnell, Senate Majority Leader  
The Honorable Harry Reid, Senate Minority Leader