

THE AD HOC GROUP FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

November 2, 2017	The Honorable Paul D. Ryan	The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Speaker		Majority Leader
United States House of Representatives		United States Senate
H-232, The Capitol		S-230, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515		Washington, DC 20510
The Honorable Kevin McCarthy		The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
Majority Leader		Minority Leader
United States House of Representatives		United States Senate
H-107, The Capitol		S-221, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515		Washington, DC 20510
The Honorable Nancy Pelosi		
Minority Leader		
United States House of Representatives		
H-204, The Capitol		
Washington, DC 20515		

Dear Speaker Ryan, Majority Leader McCarthy, Majority Leader McConnell, Minority Leader Pelosi, and Minority Leader Schumer:

The 216 undersigned organizations of the Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research thank you for your ongoing leadership in maintaining the National Institutes of Health (NIH) as a key national priority. As Congress moves forward with the fiscal year (FY) 2018 spending bills, we write to urge enactment of a bicameral, bipartisan budget agreement that raises the spending caps and enables a \$36.1 billion investment in NIH in FY 2018, as approved by the Senate Appropriations Committee. The Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research represents 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.

We are thankful for recent increases to NIH funding and appreciate Congress' continued support for medical research, which offers the hope of better health for patients and inspires the nation's next generation of scientists who seek tomorrow's cures. We are also grateful that both the House and Senate FY 2018 Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education (Labor-HHS) funding bills continue this momentum by recognizing NIH as an important federal investment. Building on this commitment will ensure a steady pipeline of basic research discoveries and advancing the translational effort necessary to improve prevention, detection, diagnosis, and treatment of disease requires a sustained commitment to the NIH. The \$2 billion increase provided in the Senate Labor-HHS bill would allow a continued trajectory of predictable growth necessary to achieve these objectives.

We are concerned, however, that without relief from sequestration, final funding for critical federal agencies like the NIH could face significant hurdles. Our country is known for its outstanding medical research capacity, but the discretionary spending caps imposed by sequestration will jeopardize our competitive edge in an increasingly innovation-based global marketplace. To maintain our leadership, we must reaffirm this commitment by providing biomedical research enterprise the support needed to maintain our competitive edge.

As you work to finalize FY 2018 appropriations, we respectfully urge you to maintain the nation's investment in biomedical research and develop a bipartisan solution that eases the non-defense discretionary caps and allows for robust funding for the NIH.

Sincerely,

Academic Pediatric Association

Academy for Radiology & Biomedical Imaging Research

AcademyHealth

ACT for NIH: Advancing Cures Today

Adult Congenital Heart Association

Alliance for Aging Research

Alpha-1 Foundation

American Academy of Pediatrics

American Association for Cancer Research

American Association for Dental Research

American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases

American Association for Women Radiologists

American Association of Colleges of Nursing

American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine

American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy

American Association of Immunologists

American Association of Neurological Surgeons

American Association of Neuromuscular & Electrodiagnostic Medicine

American Association of Physicists in Medicine

American Brain Coalition

American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network

American College of Cardiology

American College of Nuclear Medicine

American College of Radiology
American College of Rheumatology
American Gastroenterological Association
American Heart Association
American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering
American Institute of Ultrasound in Medicine
American Liver Foundation
American Lung Association
American Pediatric Society
American Physiological Society
American Psychological Association
American Roentgen Ray Society
American Society for Cell Biology
American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy
American Society for Investigative Pathology
American Society for Microbiology
American Society for Nutrition
American Society for Pharmacology & Experimental Therapeutics
American Society for Radiation Oncology
American Society for Reproductive Medicine
American Society of Anesthesiologists
American Society of Clinical Oncology
American Society of Hematology
American Society of Human Genetics
American Society of Nephrology
American Society of Neuroradiology
American Society of Pediatric Nephrology
American Society of Radiologic Technologists
American Thoracic Society
American Veterinary Medical Association
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 Black Cardiologists
Association of Independent Research Institutes
Association of Medical School Pediatric Department Chairs
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities
Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
Biophysical Society
Canon U.S.A., Inc.
Cedars-Sinai Health System
Children's Hospital Los Angeles
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation
Clinical Research Forum
Coalition for Clinical & Translational Science
Coalition for the Life Sciences
Columbia University
Conference of Boston Teaching Hospitals
Congress of Neurological Surgeons
Consortium of Social Science Associations
Cooley's Anemia Foundation
Coriell Institute for Medical Research
Cornell University
Council on Governmental Relations
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
Deadliest Cancers Coalition
Debbie's Dream Foundation: Curing Stomach Cancer
Digestive Disease National Coalition
Duke University School of Medicine
Dystonia Medical Research Foundation
Emory University
Endocrine Society
Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology
Federation of Associations in Behavioral and Brain Sciences
Florida State University
FujiFilm Medical Systems
GBS|CIDP Foundation International

GE Healthcare
Global Liver Institute
Hackensack Meridian Health
Harvard University
Hepatitis B Foundation
HIV Medicine Association
Infectious Diseases Society of America
International Foundation for Functional Gastrointestinal Disorders
International Society for Magnetic Resonance in Medicine (ISMRM)
International Society for Stem Cell Research
Interstitial Cystitis Association
Jeffrey Modell Foundation
Johns Hopkins University
Keck Medicine of USC
Konica Minolta Healthcare
Lupus Research Alliance
March of Dimes
Mayo Clinic
Medical Library Association
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
METAvivor Research and Support
Michigan State University
Moffitt Cancer Center
Muscular Dystrophy Association
National Alliance for Eye and Vision Research
National Alliance on Mental Illness
National Alopecia Areata Foundation
National Association for Biomedical Research
National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors
National Coalition for Cancer Research (NCCR)
National Fragile X Foundation
National Kidney Foundation
National Multiple Sclerosis Society
NephCure Kidney International
North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition
Northeast Ohio Medical University
Northeastern University
NYU Langone Health
Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine
Oregon Health and Science University
Pediatric Policy Council
Penn Medicine
Philips
Population Association of America
Psychonomic Society
Pulmonary Hypertension Association
QalibreMD, Inc.
Radiological Society of North America
Research!America
Restless Legs Syndrome Foundation
Saint Louis University
Scleroderma Foundation
Siemens Healthineers
Sjogren's Syndrome Foundation
Sleep Research Society
Society for Imaging Informatics in Medicine
Society for Judgment and Decision Making
Society for Neuroscience
Society for Pediatric Research
Society for Psychophysiological Research
Society of Abdominal Radiology
Society of Breast Imaging
Society of Chairs of Academic Radiology Departments
Society of Computed Body Tomography & Magnetic Resonance
Society of General Internal Medicine
Society of Interventional Radiology
Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging
Society of Radiologists in Ultrasound
Society of Skeletal Radiology
Society of Thoracic Radiology
Southern Illinois University School of Medicine
Stanford University
Stony Brook University
The American Institute of Ultrasound in Medicine
The Marfan Foundation

The Medical Image Perception Society
The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research
The Society for Pediatric Radiology
Toshiba Medical Systems Corporation
Tulane University
Turner Syndrome Foundation
U.S. Hereditary Angioedema Association
University of Delaware
University of California San Diego
University of California San Francisco (UCSF)
University of California System
University of Chicago Medical Center
University of Cincinnati
University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus
University of Colorado Boulder
University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine
University of Illinois College of Medicine
University of Illinois System
University of Iowa Health Care
University of Kansas
University of Maryland School of Medicine
University of Massachusetts Medical School
University of Miami Health System
University of Miami Miller School of Medicine
University of Missouri School of Medicine
University of Nebraska Medical Center
University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center
University of Oregon
University of Pittsburgh
University of Washington
University of Wisconsin-Madison
Upstate Medical University
UTHealth | The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
Vanderbilt University
Vanderbilt University Medical Center
Virginia Commonwealth University
Virginia Tech
Wake Forest School of Medicine
Washington State University
Washington University in St. Louis
Western Michigan University Homer Stryker M.D. School of Medicine
Yale University

cc:

The Honorable Thad Cochran, Chairman, Senate Committee on Appropriations
The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy, Ranking Member, Senate Committee on Appropriations
The Honorable Roy Blunt, Chairman, Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, HHS, Education
The Honorable Patty Murray, Ranking Member, Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, HHS, Education
The Honorable Rodney Frelinghuysen, Chairman, House Committee on Appropriations
The Honorable Nita Lowey, Ranking Member, House Committee on Appropriations
The Honorable Tom Cole, Chairman, House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, HHS, Education
The Honorable Rosa L. DeLauro, Ranking Member, House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, HHS, Education