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**Academy for Radiology & Biomedical Imaging Research's Statement on Senate Passage of the Labor-HHS Appropriations Bill**

*August 24, 2018 – The Academy for Radiology & Biomedical Imaging Research (The Academy) issued the following statement in response to Senate passage of the fiscal year (FY) 2019 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies (Labor-HHS) spending bill, as Division B of H.R.6157, which includes a \$2 billion funding increase for the National Institutes of Health (NIH).*

The Academy commends the Senate for its continual commitment to biomedical research in FY 2019 which has a tremendous impact on NIH and its 27 Institutes and Centers. In addition to providing the hope of better health to millions of patients, NIH funding advances science, innovation, and economic growth, which include the enormous strides made in radiology and imaging research at the National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering (NIBIB). The \$2 billion increase included in this bill strongly reflects the sustainable, predictable growth above inflation necessary to ensure the invaluable promise of cures, treatments and diagnosis offered through research at the NIH.

We are grateful to Senate and Appropriations Committee leadership, including Chairman Richard Shelby (R-Ala.), Ranking Member Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.), Subcommittee Chair Roy Blunt (R-Mo.), and Ranking Member Patty Murray (D-Wash.), for bringing this important legislation to full Senate consideration for the first time in over a decade.

The Academy encourages the House of Representatives to join the Senate in passing a bipartisan spending bill with at least a \$2 billion increase for the NIH. The Academy looks forward to working with lawmakers to ensure the U.S. remains the unquestionable global leader in medical research.

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*The Academy for Radiology & Biomedical Imaging Research is an alliance of over 200 members including; academic radiology departments, professional imaging societies, patient advocacy groups, and industry partners. Its mission is to raise the profile of imaging research and ensure a sustainable imaging research budget within the federal government.*