

# Research!America

AN ALLIANCE FOR DISCOVERIES IN HEALTH®

July 25, 2008

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The Honorable Janet Napolitano  
Chair, Platform Drafting Committee  
Democratic National Committee  
430 South Capitol Street, SE  
Washington, D.C. 20003

Dear Governor Napolitano,

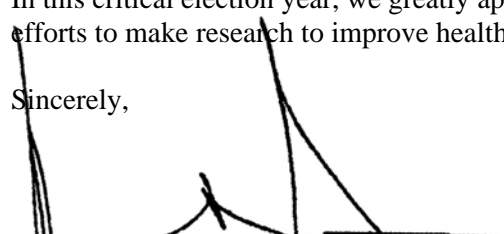
As you know, health is a key issue for Americans. Research!America, as the nation's largest alliance of organizations dedicated to research, is working to ensure that voters know where their candidates stand on issues related to improving our nation's health. To reinforce the party's commitment to these issues, we propose the following statements for inclusion in the Democratic Party National Platform.

Investing in research will...

- **Make Americans healthier.** Destructive and chronic diseases like cancer, heart disease, Alzheimer's, obesity and diabetes can only be prevented, treated or cured through research.
- **Improve health care.** The U.S. health care system must be able to deliver the right care to the right people at the right time. Research has and will continue to show us how to achieve better quality and lower cost health care.
- **Strengthen our economy.** Research is the foundation of innovation and innovation is the driving force of our economy. As other nations build their own research enterprises, we must invest aggressively in our intellectual capital and create the jobs of an emerging knowledge economy.
- **Allow America to lead.** Renewing America's commitment to innovation will inspire the next generation of scientific leaders and ensure America's place at the leading edge of global science and technology.
- **Protect our future.** In times of war and peace, the fruits of research and innovation will continue to provide our nation the tools to defend its people against potential threats.
- **Improve health globally.** Investing in global health research is the smart thing to do for America and the right thing to do for the world. The U.S. can make great diplomatic strides by sharing the social and economic benefits of better health with the rest of the world.

In this critical election year, we greatly appreciate the Democratic Party's efforts to make research to improve health a higher national priority.

Sincerely,

  
The Honorable John Edward Porter  
Chair, Research!America  
Member of Congress 1980-2001



Mary Woolley  
President, Research!America