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March 16, 2009

Dear Members:

Research to improve health has been revitalized through the recent investments and policy changes made by the Obama Administration and the 111<sup>th</sup> Congress. More than 70,000 jobs will be protected and created; the next generation of scientists will be empowered; science will advance. Now is the time to invest aggressively in order to capitalize on scientific opportunity to make our nation healthier and maintain U.S. leadership in the emerging knowledge-based economy.

**Research!America recommends a funding increase of at least 10% for the National Institutes of Health in FY2010 with the goal of reaching an annual appropriation of \$40 billion as soon as possible.** We are working with partner organizations to support similarly strong increases in funding for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality and National Science Foundation.

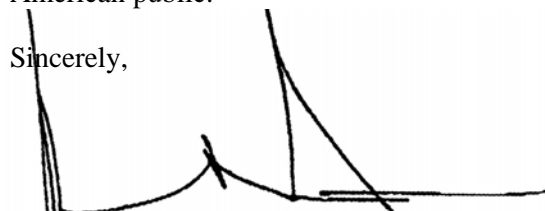
We call on you as a member of the Research!America alliance to join us in delivering the following messages to your elected officials in support of substantial increases for research to improve health:

- In order to thrive in the global economy, the United States must continue to lead in technology and innovation, which is a proven pathway to a strong economy.
- Research is the foundation upon which innovation and technology take place.
- Strong investment in research funded by the NIH, NSF, CDC and AHRQ will rapidly turn into solutions for health care.
- Research is fundamental to transforming U.S. health care from a “sick care” system to a system focused on preventing disease and promoting wellness.

Ensuring robust funding for NIH, CDC, AHRQ and NSF in the years to come will require bold action by advocates, Congress and the Administration. President Obama recently said, “There is no finish line in the work of science. The race is always with us – the urgent work of giving substance to hope and answering those many bedside prayers, of seeking a day when words like “terminal” and “incurable” are finally retired from our vocabulary.”

We look forward to working with you to realize the hopes and expectations of the American public.

Sincerely,



The Honorable John Edward Porter  
Member of Congress 1980-2001



Mary Woolley