May xx, 2022

The Hon. Patrick Leahy
Chairman
Senate Committee on Appropriations
Room S-146A, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

The Hon. Richard Shelby
Vice Chairman
Senate Committee on Appropriations
S-128, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

The Hon. Rosa DeLauro
Chair
House Committee on Appropriations
H-307, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Hon. Kay Granger
Ranking Member
House Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair Leahy, Chair DeLauro, Vice Chairman Shelby and Ranking Member Granger:

Thank you for your commitment to ensuring that basic scientific and technological research, pandemic preparedness and COVID-response efforts were well provided for in the FY22 omnibus appropriations bill.

The Appropriations Committees in both the House and the Senate have led the way throughout the pandemic in ensuring that vital resources were made available in flexible and creative ways to allow decision makers to adapt to fast changing conditions around the world.

As you begin the FY23 appropriations process, we urge you to sustain your commitment to federal funding for medical and public health research by securing a robust 302(b) funding allocation for the Labor-HHS-Education Subcommittee to meet the very real research funding needs before us. A healthy 302(b) allocation will help ensure robust funding for important health funding in the Labor-HHS-Education Subcommittee for NIH, CDC, AHRQ, BARDA and ARPA-H.

We are particularly concerned about funding for the National Institutes of Health. We are deeply disappointed in the minimal (0.6% percent) increase recommended in the President’s FY23 budget submission. As our nation’s flagship research institution, we believe that an infusion of at least $4.1 billion is more than justified by the toll health threats take on Americans and populations across the globe. An increase of $4.1 billion, inclusive of 21st Century Cures funding, would empower NIH to grow the number of progress-fueling grants the Institutes can support. The American people need and value fast-paced medical progress, which cannot be accomplished without fueling the barrier-breaking foundational research NIH funds and conducts. The anemic funding increase for NIH included in the President’s budget will not put us in a position to confront and defeat longstanding, emerging, and yet unknown health threats or bolster our research capacity to ensure global competitiveness.
While we support ARPA-H, we feel strongly that funding for this new agency should complement – not supplant – NIH funding. The importance of providing robust funding to NIH and simultaneously supplying sufficient funding for this innovative new agency underscores the need for a robust 302(b) allocation for the Labor-HHS-Education Subcommittee.

Thank you for your time and consideration as you prepare for FY23 appropriations to fund our national priorities. Please call on us if we can be of assistance to you.

Sincerely,

Academy for Radiology & Biomedical Imaging Research
AIDS Alliance for Women, Infants, Children, Youth & Families
Alpha-1 Foundation
American Academy of Neurology
American Association for Cancer Research
American Association for Dental, Oral, and Craniofacial Research
American Association of Colleges of Nursing
American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy
American Association of Veterinary Medical Colleges
American Behcet’s Disease Association (ABDA)
American College of Clinical Pharmacy
American Dental Education Association
American Physiological Society
American Psychological Association
American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
American Society for Bone and Mineral Research (ASBMR)
American Society for Investigative Pathology
American Society for Nutrition
American Society of Human Genetics
American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene
Arthritis Foundation
Association for Clinical Oncology
Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO)
Association of American Medical Colleges
Association of University Professors of Ophthalmology
Autoimmune Association
Bento Biology Inc.
Biocom California
Biophysical Society
BrightFocus Foundation
Ciencia Puerto Rico
Coalition for the Life Sciences
Cohen Veterans Bioscience
Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory
NBWHAN
NDRI
NEDA
New York Academy of Medicine
OncoSpherix, Inc
Oregon Health & Science University
Patrick Risha CTE Awareness Foundation
Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation
Rare and Undiagnosed Network (RUN)
Richard Foltin
Saint Louis University School of Medicine
SBH Women's Health
Shepherd University - PBM Foundation
Sjogren's Foundation
Society for Neuroscience
Solve M.E.
Support Fibromyalgia Network
The Alzheimer's Association
The Alzheimer's Impact Movement
The Jackson Laboratory
The Marfan Foundation
The TMJ Association
The VEDS Movement
Treatment Action Group
UC Irvine School of Medicine
UC San Diego
UCLA School of Nursing
University of California, San Francisco
University of Chicago
University of Chicago Medical Center
ValentineGroupHealth, LLC
Virginia Tech
Walden University
ZERO - The End of Prostate Cancer