

July 22, 2021

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy
Chairman
Senate Appropriations Committee
S-146A, The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Richard Shelby
Vice Chairman
Senate Appropriations Committee
S-128, The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20510

OFFICERS

Susan Dentzer, Chair
The Hon. Michael N. Castle, Chair Emeritus
The Hon. Bart Gordon, Vice Chair
Mary Woolley, President
E. Albert Reece, MD, PhD, MBA, Secretary
Amy Comstock Rick, JD, Treasurer

BOARD MEMBERS

Tenley E. Albright, MD
Georges C. Benjamin, MD
Nancy Brown
The Hon. Charlie Dent
Mikael Dolsten, MD, PhD
Victor J. Dzau, MD
Kafui Dzirasa, MD, PhD
Arthur C. Evans Jr., PhD
Dario Gil, PhD
William N. Hait, MD, PhD
Mary J.C. Hendrix, PhD
The Hon. Rush D. Holt, PhD
James L. Madara, MD
Mark McClellan, MD, PhD
Michelle McMurry-Heath, MD, PhD
Jessica L. Mega, MD, MPH
Herbert Pardes, MD
Sudip S. Parikh, PhD
Harold L. Paz, MD, MS
Guillermo Prado, PhD
Derek Rapp
Laing Rogers
Lewis G. Sandy, MD, FACP
The Hon. Donna Shalala
Larry J. Shapiro, MD
Deborah Trautman, PhD, RN, FAAN
M. Roy Wilson, MD
Cynthia Zagieboylo

Dear Chairman Leahy and Vice Chairman Shelby:

On behalf of the Research!America Board of Directors and alliance members, thank you for your longstanding support of robust funding for our nation's health, medical, and scientific research agencies. Your sustained and bipartisan leadership in funding crucial efforts through agencies such as the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), the National Science Foundation (NSF), and the Food & Drug Administration (FDA) has truly extended and saved countless lives in the U.S. and around the world.

We respectfully request that these agencies remain key priorities as you consider President Biden's Fiscal Year 2022 (FY22) budget request and weigh the funding decisions you will be compelled to make in drafting the Committee's FY22 bills. As the COVID-19 pandemic and the recent bipartisan Senate debate about the role of scientific research in securing our nation's economic future have amply demonstrated, investing in research is a crucial investment for Congress to make – the need for faster medical, scientific, and public health progress has never been more apparent.

As noted in testimony submitted to the Labor-HHS-Education, Commerce-Justice-Science, and Agriculture-FDA Subcommittees earlier this year, Research!America asks that for FY22, you provide increases in the base budgets (exclusive of new initiatives) over FY21 enacted levels of at least \$4.29 B (10%) for NIH; \$2.18 B (27.89%) for CDC; \$162 M (47.92%) for AHRQ; \$1.72 B (20.28%) for NSF; and no less than \$200 million (6%) above the FY21 funding level for Budget Authority (BA) for FDA.

In regard to ARPA-H, the alliance supports the President's determination to leverage cross-sector collaboration and capitalize on key attributes of DARPA, ARPA-E, and I-ARPA to create a new avenue for lifesaving science and technology (S&T)-driven progress. Drawing from the wide range of expertise within our alliance, we look forward to working with the Administration and Congress to ensure that ARPA-H plays a unique and impactful role in our nation's S&T ecosystem.

241 18th Street South
Suite 501
Arlington, VA 22202

P 703.739.2577

F 703.739.2372

E info@researchamerica.org

Research delivers solutions – vaccines developed from decades of previously conducted research led to shots in arms in less than a year into the COVID-19 pandemic, a monumental achievement. Research!America's members believe Congress, on a bipartisan basis, has the opportunity to super-size our nation's S&T capacity as a strategic imperative against the multitude of health, security, and economic challenges that lay ahead.

Research!America's members understand that you will be making difficult decisions in the coming weeks and months as you seek to put together the FY22 appropriations bills. We are grateful for your continued stalwart support for basic health, medical, and scientific research and look forward to working with you to make the case for increased national commitments to these vital agencies.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Woolley".

Mary Woolley
President & CEO
Research!America