



July 24, 2014

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The Honorable Tom Harkin
731 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Harkin,

On behalf of Research!America, thank you for introducing the *Accelerating Biomedical Research Act (S.2658)*.

This legislation is so very important, providing for additional investment in medical research that is clearly warranted by such grim realities as the growing prevalence of Alzheimer’s and other deadly and chronic diseases; the unprecedented potential for medical progress created by such breakthroughs as gene sequencing; and our nation’s faltering global economic leadership as other nations, particularly China, flout our declining commitment to innovation by investing more in R&D.

And we appreciate that the bill is carefully designed to increase spending for the National Institutes of Health without cutting into the resources for other national priorities that rely on discretionary spending – resources for other noncommercial R&D, our children’s education, and other imperatives that are already grossly underfunded if our nation wants to thrive going forward.

You have always been an extraordinary champion for medical research and other national priorities that touch the lives of every American. We applaud your leadership and your patriotism as you fight to save lives and seed a renaissance in U.S. innovation.

Sincerely,

Mary Woolley
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