

July 5, 2018

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The Honorable Roy Blunt Chairman Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies 260 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patty Murray Ranking Member Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies 154 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Blunt and Ranking Member Murray,

On behalf of Research! America, thank you for providing robust funding – including \$39.08 billion for the National Institutes of Health (NIH), \$7.9 billion the for Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and \$334 million for the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) – for our nation's critical health-related agencies in the Senate's pending Fiscal Year 2019 (FY19) Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill.

NIH, CDC and AHRQ play a pivotal role in safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing of Americans and populations across the globe. From seeding progress against deadly and debilitating diseases, to protecting the nation from pandemics and bioterrorism, to ensuring that advances in healthcare are reaching patients in the most effective, cost-efficient way possible, these agencies work 24/7 to advance individual and population health.

Under your leadership, these crucial agencies are better positioned to fulfill their crucially important missions, and we look forward to working with you to ensure funding remains robust as the FY19 appropriations process moves forward.

Thank you again for your vision and leadership.

Sincerely,

Mary Woolley

President and CEO