

February 3, 2014

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Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural
Development and Food & Drug
Administration
United States House of Representatives

Dear Chairs Mikulski, Rogers, Pryor and Arderholt and Ranking Members Shelby, Lowey, Blunt, and Farr:

On behalf of Research! America, the nation's largest not-for-profit public education and advocacy alliance working to make research to improve health a higher national priority, I would like to thank you for the funding increase you provided to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2014.

Among its many contributions to human health and safety, FDA bears the formidable responsibility of ensuring that safe and effective medical treatments reach patients as soon as possible. Because lives literally hang in the balance, maximizing the efficiency and accuracy of FDA's work in this area is absolutely crucial. It speaks to your committed stewardship of the public health that you not only provided increased resources for this function, but compensated for the 2013 sequestration of FDA user fees.

While we hope that future appropriations measures will also assign top priority to funding for the National Institutes of Health and other agencies crucial to accelerated medical progress, we truly appreciate your leadership and the

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E info@researchamerica.org www.researchamerica.org determination with which you pursued, and achieved, the prioritization of discretionary funding enabled by regular order.

Sincerely,

Mary Woolley President and CEO