



July 16, 2020

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*on leave of absence

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The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Leader McConnell, Speaker Pelosi, Minority Leader Schumer, and Minority Leader McCarthy:

We greatly appreciate your tireless bipartisan work to address both the immediate and long-term impacts of COVID-19. On behalf of Research!America's Board of Directors and our more than 430 organizational members from across the R&D ecosystem, I urge you to prevent COVID-19 from undercutting the urgently needed medical progress you set in motion when you championed increased funding for NIH, NSF, and other research agencies in Fiscal Year 2020.

COVID-19 has rightly reprogrammed and unavoidably derailed research grants across NIH, NSF, and every other federal research agency. NIH Director Collins estimates that at least \$10 billion in cost recovery supplements will be necessary to ensure FY20 grant funding meets its potential, and estimates for all research agencies surpass \$26 billion.

Your leadership and vision have never been more important in ensuring that the next emergency spending bill confronts the reality of COVID-19-compromised research grants. By making these grants whole, Congress and the Administration can ensure our nation sees the research returns you expected when putting the FY20 budget in place. Those returns – new knowledge that spurs medical, economic, and other key facets of societal progress – have never been more important.

We appreciate your extraordinary commitment and hard work, as well as those of your respective staff members, and thank you for considering our views.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Woolley". The signature is written in a dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Mary Woolley
President and CEO
Research!America