



August 5, 2020

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*on leave of absence

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 committed, bipartisan efforts to address both the immediate and long-term impacts of COVID-19. As you negotiate a supplemental spending package to address the complexity of challenges COVID-19 has bred, we urge you to include at least \$26 billion to prevent the pandemic 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 unavoidably derailed research working to find answers in the fight against Alzheimer's disease, cancer, rare diseases, sickle cell anemia, ALS, and numerous other deadly and debilitating health threats. Your leadership and vision are pivotal to ensuring that the pending supplemental spending package replenishes the research funding that COVID-19 has depleted.

By including at least \$26 billion in supplemental research funding, 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.

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We are thankful for your determination 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 ink is dark and the signature is fluid and legible.

Mary Woolley
President and CEO
Research!America