



July 30, 2019

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

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

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Dear Leader McConnell and Minority Leader Schumer:

On behalf of Research!America, the nation’s largest not-for-profit advocacy and public education alliance committed to faster medical and public health progress, thank you for your respective roles in crafting the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2019 (H.R. 3877). We fully support this legislation and urge its prompt consideration in the U.S. Senate.

By raising the discretionary budget caps for Fiscal Years 2020 and 2021, H.R. 3877 will empower our nation to boost funding for such crucial federal agencies as the National Institutes of Health, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, the Food and Drug Administration, and the National Science Foundation. These agencies work individually and jointly to fuel life-saving medical progress, advance and protect the public health, and assure the U.S. retains its global leadership in the strategically and economically essential realms of science and technology.

Research!America has commissioned national surveys for more than 25 years, and Americans have never wavered in their support for federally-funded research, their desire for faster medical progress, or their recognition of the need to leverage science to forcefully confront emerging and ongoing public health threats. Unless the Senate passes and the President signs the Bipartisan Budget Act, deep cuts to federal investment in these priorities will place our nation in the position of backtracking against such threats as the opioid crisis, Alzheimer’s Disease, and antibiotic-resistant superbugs, placing American lives at risk and setting the stage for dramatically higher health and long-term care spending. For the sake of our nation today and tomorrow, it is critical to ensure that H.R. 3877 becomes law.

We are grateful for the hard work you and your staff members have devoted to negotiating and advancing the Bipartisan Budget Act, and hope that the Senate passes this critical legislation without delay.

Thank you for your leadership and consideration.

Sincerely,

Mary Woolley  
President and CEO, Research!America

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