



November 10, 2022

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Senate Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Senate Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
United States Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

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

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

On behalf of Research!America, thank you for your leadership during this tumultuous period in our nation's history. Even as we continue to struggle with existential threats to public health such as [COVID-19](#) and the [opioid crisis](#), our nation's longstanding commitment to [scientific discovery](#) and [public health progress](#) has enabled us to take significant steps forward in addressing these and other threats. As it stands, however, research and other tools essential to meeting today's challenges are weakened by a budget that has not been updated to reflect current realities.

It is in that context that we urge you to secure passage of an Omnibus FY23 spending package before the current continuing resolution (CR) expires on December 16, 2022, and to include boosted funding for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and our nation's other research agencies.

The health threats we face are daunting, whether it is the [1.7 million people](#) who die in the US from a chronic disease, the [1 in 10 Americans living with a rare disease](#), the [increasing risk](#) of another severe, global pandemic, or another grim reality. If we assign strategic priority to strengthening our nation's research agencies and private sector innovators, these threats will meet their match. Whether the measure is [progress against cancer](#), or the [rapid-pace development of diagnostics, treatments, and vaccines against COVID](#), or concrete progress toward [gene therapies that can cure rare genetic diseases](#)...we are on the right path. The FY23 omnibus can be a vehicle for turbocharging progress, and our nation should seize that opportunity.

Specifically, we respectfully request FY23 funding at the following levels:

- **at least \$47.5 billion** for NIH, an increase of \$2.5 billion over FY22;

- **at least \$3.65 billion** for the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) exclusive of user fees, an increase of \$330 million over FY22;
- **at least \$10.45 billion** for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), an increase of \$2.1 billion over FY22
- **at least \$500 million** for the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), an increase of \$150 million over FY22;
- **at least \$1.5 billion** for ARPA-H, separate and apart from the \$47.5 billion in NIH funding noted above, an increase of \$500,000 over FY22; and
- **at least \$11.9 billion** for the National Science Foundation (NSF), an increase of \$2.66 billion over FY22.

The funding requests above would advance national, health, and economic security in concrete ways, equipping NIH to capitalize on more of the highly promising research proposals the agency receives from researchers in every state and territory across the U.S., beginning to address the longstanding gap between responsibilities and resources at FDA and helping to align resources with strategic significance across all five agencies.

Again, Speaker Pelosi, Leader Schumer, Leader McConnell, and Leader McCarthy, please act with urgency to pass an FY23 spending package that fuels research-fueled progress against deadly, but defeat-able, health threats.

Thank you for considering our views, and for the extraordinary contributions you and your respective staff members make to the public good. We stand by to help in any way we can.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Woolley".

Mary Woolley
President & CEO
Research!America