



August 10, 2026

The Hon. Susan Collins
Chair
Senate Appropriations Committee
Washington, DC 20510

The Hon. Patty Murray
Vice Chair
Senate Appropriations Committee
Washington, DC 20510

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The Hon. Shelley Moore Capito
Chair
Senate Appropriations Committee
Subcommittee on Labor-HHS
Washington, DC 20510

The Hon. Tammy Baldwin
Ranking Member
Senate Appropriations Committee
Subcommittee on Labor-HHS
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chair Collins, Vice Chair Murray, Chair Capito, and Ranking Member Baldwin:

On behalf of the [Research!America](#) Board and our more than 300 member organizations across the nation, thank you for your leadership in securing Senate passage of the bipartisan Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act, 2027. This measure is an important step toward averting a government shutdown that could slow the pace of discovery, disrupt progress toward medical breakthroughs, and delay answers for patients and families across the country.

We are especially grateful for the inclusion of Section 157, which would prevent OMB's proposed federal grant rule from being finalized or taking effect through December 11. Given the proposal's far-reaching implications for scientific peer review, ongoing research, clinical trials, and congressional funding authority, we hope this pause leads OMB to withdraw the proposal and work with Congress and affected stakeholders on a more targeted approach to strengthening transparency, accountability, and oversight of taxpayer-funded grants.

We urge you to preserve Section 157 in the final continuing resolution. As you work to complete Fiscal Year 2027 appropriations before the CR expires, we also ask that you build on Congress's longstanding bipartisan support for medical research by providing robust funding for the National Institutes of Health and other federal research and public health agencies.

Thank you for being steadfast champions of medical research and for the work you and your staff continue to do to move the bipartisan appropriations process forward.

With appreciation and continued partnership,

Russ Paulsen
President & CEO
Research!America