



THE AD HOC GROUP FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

CIRCULATING FOR ENDORSEMENTS

October X, 2025

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chair
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Susan Collins
Chair
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Patty Murray
Vice Chair
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chair Cole, Ranking Member DeLauro, Chair Collins, and Vice Chair Murray:

As Congress resumes its work on the annual spending bills, the [insert # of signatories] undersigned members of the Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research, representing patients, clinicians, scientists, educators, academic and research organizations, and industry, write to thank you for your longstanding, bipartisan commitment to predictable and sustained growth in medical research funding at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and urge you to finalize the fiscal year (FY) 2026 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies (Labor-HHS) spending bill with a robust investment in the NIH. Specifically, **we urge you to provide no less than the Senate Appropriations Committee-approved level of \$47.2 billion for NIH, in addition to funding for the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H).**

We are grateful that the spending bills passed by both the House (H.R. 5304) and Senate (S. 2587) Appropriations Committees would provide NIH with much needed increases over the previous year. In particular, the funding level in the Senate bill would offer an even greater opportunity to expand NIH's capacity to fund more promising research, provide support for the next generation of researchers, and allow the agency to address other critical needs. Additionally, the Senate bill would preserve the nation's research infrastructure, avoid policy provisions that could hamper research, and prevent further dramatic decreases in the number of awardees that are the result of frontloading awards. To ensure that funding supports the work of NIH effectively, it is imperative that Congress finalize the NIH funding level as quickly as possible; the bipartisan approach in S. 2587 both helps achieve that goal and upholds key attributes essential to the NIH's success.

As the world's premier public funder of medical research, the NIH plays an important role in our nation's international leadership, and robust annual funding growth for NIH is key to improving

people's health. NIH-funded research in every state and nearly every congressional district leads to medical breakthroughs that benefit patients nationwide, advancing potential cures, treatments, and preventive strategies addressing cancer, Alzheimer's disease and related dementias, diabetes, Parkinson's, chronic health conditions, autoimmune diseases, and the full range of other conditions that affect patients, families, and communities. In addition to providing hope for patients and families across the country, robust support for NIH-funded research bolsters national security, strengthens the research workforce, and leads to increased local and regional economic output. For these reasons, in March, [over 500 organizations across the NIH stakeholder community](#) united to urge lawmakers to support meaningful growth for the agency in FY 2026 with at least \$51.3 billion for NIH.

Although we acknowledge the context of a constrained discretionary spending environment and its impact on funding conversations, we cannot overstate the importance of maintaining and building upon support for medical research. Our community is grateful that a bipartisan, bicameral group of lawmakers exercised Congress's oversight responsibility in ensuring that appropriated funds would be obligated as intended in FY 2025 and that the FY 2026 spending bills in both chambers recognize the NIH as an urgent national priority. **The Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research urges you to continue that bipartisan commitment in the final FY 2026 spending bill, adopting the approach in S. 2587 and providing at least \$47.2 billion for NIH, in addition to funding for ARPA-H.**

Thank you again for your leadership and prioritization of the work that brings hope to patients and their families.

Sincerely,

of Signatories as of Date

cc: The Honorable Robert Aderholt
The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito
The Honorable Tammy Baldwin