



November 4, 2015

The Honorable Thad Cochran  
Chair  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Barbara Mikulski  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Hal Rogers  
Chair  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Nita Lowey  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairmen Cochran and Rogers, and Ranking Members Mikulski and Lowey:

As a coalition of more than 300 patient and voluntary health groups, medical and scientific societies, academic and research organizations, and industry, the Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research strongly urges you to provide the largest possible 302(b) allocation to the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies (Labor-HHS) Appropriations Subcommittee for FY 2016.

The Ad Hoc Group is pleased the Bipartisan Budget Act (BBA) of 2015 increases the cap on non-defense discretionary spending in FY 2016 by \$25 billion above the sequestration level, an important first step in restoring order to the federal budget process. Moreover, the compromise presents the opportunity to make good on the commitment to medical research supported by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in the FY 2016 Labor-HHS-Education spending bills approved by the House and Senate Appropriations Committees earlier this year.

As you know, recent cycles of continuing resolutions (CR) and increasing fiscal pressures have imposed counterproductive hardships and inefficiencies on NIH, research institutions, and scientists in planning and conducting life-saving medical research nationwide. Providing a robust allocation for the Labor-HHS spending bill will enable Congress to begin a much-needed reinvestment in the nation's research enterprise.

The Ad Hoc Group is deeply grateful for your longstanding leadership and support for NIH. As you finalize spending levels for FY 2016, we urge you to provide the largest possible allocation for the Labor-HHS Appropriations Subcommittee affording appropriators the opportunity to fund NIH at a level that will capitalize on the scientific opportunity that millions of patients are counting on for a healthier tomorrow.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'David B. Moore'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

David B. Moore  
Executive Director