



## THE AD HOC GROUP FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

August 30, 2018  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senator:

The Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research, a coalition of over 300 patient and voluntary health groups, medical and scientific societies, academic and research organizations, and industry, dedicated to enhancing the federal investment in biomedical, behavioral, social, and population-based research supported by the National Institutes of Health (NIH), writes to express our deepest appreciation for your vote to advance H.R. 6157 with the Senate's fiscal year (FY) 2019 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies (Labor-HHS) appropriations bill. The spending bill's \$2 billion increase for medical research translates to real hope and opportunity for every patient awaiting a cure, every researcher working toward the next breakthrough, and every aspiring scientist considering a career in the lab.

We continue to be extremely thankful for NIH funding increases in the last three fiscal years, as the greatest research builds upon previous discoveries through continued, steady advances that rely on robust, sustained support for the agency. Building on this foundation, the \$2 billion increase included in the Senate FY 2019 bill will enable meaningful growth across the full spectrum of research supported by the NIH, while positively impacting local economies in every state and Washington, D.C. This sustained investment in NIH acts as a catalyst for a steady pipeline of basic research discoveries and helps sustain the translational and clinical efforts necessary to improve the detection, diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of disease.

Our country has the most impressive medical research capacity in the world. If enacted, the new funding provided by this spending bill will allow the United States to keep its competitive edge in an increasingly innovation-based global marketplace. Our nation will remain a leader in medical research because of Congress's bipartisan recognition of NIH's critical role.

Thank you for your continued support for biomedical research, and the hope it provides to patients across the country. We look forward to engaging with your colleagues in the House of Representatives to move forward with the historic investment in the NIH that you have supported.

Sincerely,

Tannaz Rasouli  
Executive Director  
The Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research