



THE AD HOC GROUP FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

November 14, 2023

Dear Representative:

On behalf of the Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research, I write to express extreme concern about the impact that H.R. 5894 would have on patients, families, and communities that rely on medical research supported by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) from urban centers to rural frontiers.

The Ad Hoc Group is a coalition of nearly 400 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 NIH.

Robust growth in the foundational research that the NIH supports in labs across the country is key to advancing preventive measures, diagnostics, treatments, and cures for the long list of diseases affecting people everywhere. We must ensure that we continue to expand the NIH's capacity to support fundamental science broadly across the agency and across the full range of scientific disciplines. The bipartisan federal investment not only strengthens the nation's health, it also generates tangible returns for local and regional economies, catalyzes new industries, and safeguards the homeland.

In contrast, through its untenable and deep cuts of \$2.8 billion to the NIH's base, the Labor-HHS spending bill under consideration would undermine medical research across the country, stymie our economic competitiveness with global adversaries, weaken efforts to prevent emerging threats, and negatively affect patients. Moreover, there is an array of amendments the House is considering would reduce the investment even more or otherwise scale back medical research nationwide. **As the House considers the bill, the Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research urges all lawmakers to reverse these damaging cuts and reject any amendments that would impose further harm and arbitrary restrictions on the nation's medical research enterprise.**

Otherwise, for every individual who will receive a devastating diagnosis today, every family grappling with ongoing health challenges, and every American concerned about the potential of existing and emerging threats that would devastate our national security, the Ad Hoc Group strongly urges you to oppose this bill. Instead, please take a bipartisan approach to completing FY 2024 appropriations in a timely manner and with robust investment in the NIH.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tannaz Rasouli'.

Tannaz Rasouli
Executive Director