

November 23, 2009

The President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The more than 330 undersigned patient groups, scientific and medical societies, research institutions, and industry organizations sincerely thank you for your commitment to “restore science to its rightful place” and for the historic short-term support for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) demonstrated through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). Our organizations strongly supported that provision of the bill because, as you and your administration consistently champion, the future of this nation’s health and economy depends on bold, sustained investment in research.

We write today to urge you to maintain the remarkable scientific and economic momentum ARRA is generating by making NIH a continued high priority in Fiscal Year 2011. We ask you to make permanent NIH’s promising new capacity, avoiding a steep drop-off in its scientific potential and its proven ability to serve as job generator and key component of the R&D platform for the nation’s biomedical and high-tech economies. Robust, sustained funding will ensure NIH-supported scientists can aggressively pursue solutions to the most challenging threats to our health. From cancer to Alzheimer’s disease, autism to heart disease, depression to diabetes, HIV/AIDS to blindness, hope for millions of Americans depends on progress made through research, and promising, high-quality ARRA-funded research is now underway on these health conditions, as well as many more. The knowledge generated by research is also fundamental to transforming U.S. health care from a “sick-care” system to a system focused on preventing disease and promoting wellness. Indeed, we can say unequivocally that historic strong medical research investments have created the proven pathway to improved health, better quality of life, and expanded earnings potential for millions of Americans. Faster progress on preventing, delaying and treating illness is more important than ever as Americans age and become more diverse.

When NIH invests in discovery, it spurs economic growth. NIH Director Francis Collins recently stated that ARRA grants will create or retain 50,000 jobs in communities nationwide over the two-year period. This is in addition to the impact on supporting businesses that thrive when the biomedical sector grows. Moreover, NIH dollars promote global economic competitiveness – they serve as a powerful catalyst for additional public and private research investment and jobs, and this nation’s commitment to basic science has made America the world leader in medical and scientific discovery. Finally, local and state economies nationwide benefit from NIH investments. Eighty-five percent of the NIH budget is invested in U.S. communities through universities, medical schools, hospitals, research institutes, and innovative small businesses in every state.

The large and diverse research and patient communities, representing millions of individuals, stand united in support of strong NIH funding in FY 2011. With continued gratitude and support, we ask you to invest in NIH, thereby ensuring America capitalizes on the historic opportunity generated by ARRA. NIH funded research gives patients hope, and directly serves the long-term health and economic needs of the nation.

Sincerely,

22q13 Deletion Foundation
Academy of Radiology Research
Acid Maltase Deficiency Association, Inc.
Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research
The Adenoid Cystic Carcinoma Research Foundation

Affiliated American CSA Foundation (AACSA Foundation)
AIDS Action Baltimore, Inc.
AIDS Alliance for Children, Youth and Families
The AIDS Institute
AIDS Treatment Activists Coalition
Albert Einstein College of Medicine
Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine
Alliance for Aging Research
Alliance for Microbicide Development
Alpha-1 Association
Alpha-1 Foundation
The ALS Association
Alstrom Syndrome International
Alzheimer's Association
Alzheimer's Foundation of America
The American Academy of Dermatology Association
American Academy of Neurology
American Academy of Pediatrics
American Academy of Physician Assistants
American Association for Cancer Research
American Association for Dental Research
American Association for Laboratory Animal Science
American Association for Respiratory Care
American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases
American Association of Anatomists
American Association of Colleges of Nursing
American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine
American Association of Immunologists
American Autoimmune Related Diseases Association
American Brain Coalition
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network
American Chemical Society
American College of Clinical Pharmacology
American College of Medical Genetics
American College of Neuropsychopharmacology
American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
American College of Preventive Medicine
The American College of Radiology
American Diabetes Association
The American Federation for Medical Research
American Gastroenterological Association
American Heart Association
American Lung Association
American Osteopathic Association
The American Pain Foundation
American Physiological Society
American Psychiatric Association
American Psychological Association
American Psychosomatic Society
American Sickle Cell Anemia Association
American Society for Biochemistry & Molecular Biology
American Society for Bone and Mineral Research
The American Society for Cell Biology
American Society for Clinical Pathology
American Society for Microbiology
American Society for Nutrition

The American Society for Pharmacology & Experimental Therapeutics
The American Society for Radiation Oncology
American Society for Reproductive Medicine
American Society of Clinical Oncology
The American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons
American Society of Hematology
American Society of Human Genetics
American Society of Nephrology (ASN)
American Society of Neurorehabilitation
American Society of Pediatric Nephrology (ASPN)
American Society of Transplantation (AST)
American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene
American Society on Aging
American Sociological Association
American Statistical Association
American Thoracic Society
Americans for Medical Progress
American Urogynecologic Society
amfAR, the Foundation for AIDS Research
Angioma Alliance
Arizona State University
ARPKD/CHF Alliance
Association for Clinical Research Training
Association for Frontotemporal Dementias
Association for Patient-Oriented Research
Association for Psychological Science
Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO)
Association of Academic Health Centers
Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries
The Association of American Cancer Institutes (AACI)
Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC)
Association of American Universities
Association of Independent Research Institutes
Association of Medical School Pediatric Chairs
Association of Professors of Medicine
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities
Association of Specialty Professors
Arthritis Foundation
BayBio
BCCNS Life Support Network
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston, MA
Beyond Batten Disease Foundation
BIO
Biophysical Society
BioWeatherMap.org
Boston University Center for Human Genetics
Brigham & Women's Hospital
Brown University
Burrill & Company
BVVL International
C3: Colorectal Cancer Coalition
Californians for Cures
Canavan Foundation
CARES
CareFlash
Celiac Sprue Association

CFC International
Chicago Center for Jewish Genetic Disorders
Child and Adolescent Bipolar Foundation
The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia Research Institute
Children's Rare Disease Network
Children's Sickle Cell Foundation, Inc.
Children's Tumor Foundation
The Chromosome 18 Registry & Research Society
Chordoma Foundation
The Christopher and Dana Reeve Foundation
Claire Altman Heine Foundation, Inc.
Clemson University
Clinical Laboratory Management Association
Clinical Research Forum
Coalition for 21st Century Medicine
Coalition for Health Services Research
Coalition for Imaging and Bioengineering Research
Coalition for the Advancement of Health Through Behavioral and Social Sciences Research
Coalition for the Life Sciences
Coalition of Urban Serving Universities
Coalition to Support Medical Research/ResearchMeansHope.org
Coalition to Protect Research
College of American Pathologists
Columbia University
Conference of Boston Teaching Hospitals
Congenital Adrenal Hyperplasia Research Education & Support (CARES) Foundation, Inc.
The Congenital Heart Information Network
Consortium of Social Science Associations
Cooley's Anemia Foundation
COPD Foundation
Cornell University
Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America
CSI, Communication Software, Inc.
Cutaneous Lymphoma Foundation
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation
Cystinosis Foundation
Digestive Disease National Coalition
Duke University School of Medicine
Dystonia Medical Research Foundation
Emory University
The Endocrine Society
EntroGen Inc
Epilepsy Foundation
FACES: The National Craniofacial Association
Family Voices
FasterCures
Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB)
Federation of Associations in Behavioral & Brain Sciences
Fibrous Dysplasia Foundation
First Candle/SIDS Alliance
Foundation Fighting Blindness
Foundation for Ichthyosis & Related Skin Types
Foundation for Prader-Willi Research
Foundation for Sarcoidosis Research
Friends of Cancer Research
Genetic Alliance

Genomic Health
Geoffrey Beene Foundation Alzheimer's Initiative
Ground Zero Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
Gwendolyn Strong Foundation
Halcyon Molecular Inc.
HealthSaaS.net
Health Sciences South Carolina
Heart Failure Society of America
Hepatitis Foundation International
Hereditary Disease Foundation
Hermansky-Pudlak Syndrome Network Inc.
HIV Medicine Association
Huntington's Disease Society of America
Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy Association - HCMA
The Immune Deficiency Foundation
Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA)
Innolyst, Inc.
International Cancer Advocacy Network (ICAN)
International FOP Association, Inc.
International Foundation for Functional Gastrointestinal Disorders
International WAGR Syndrome Association
Interstitial Cystitis Association
Intracranial Hypertension Research Foundation
Jeffrey Modell Foundation
Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation International
Kids With Heart National Assn for Children's Heart Disorders, Inc.
Les Turner ALS Foundation
Life Technologies
Lung Cancer Circle of Hope
Lupus Alliance of America, Inc.
The Lupus Research Institute
Lymphangiomatosis & Gorham's Disease Alliance
Lymphatic Research Foundation
MAGIC Foundation, MAS/FD Division
Malignant Hyperthermia Association of the United States (MHAUS)
March of Dimes Foundation
Massachusetts General Hospital
McLean Hospital
Medical Library Association
Medical University of South Carolina
MLD Foundation
The Mount Sinai Medical Center
Muscular Dystrophy Association
National Alopecia Areata Foundation
National Alliance for Eye and Vision Research (NAEVR)
National Alliance on Mental Illness
National Association for Biomedical Research
National Association of State Head Injury Administrators
National Ataxia Foundation
National Caucus of Basic Biomedical Science Chairs
National Coalition for Cancer Research (NCCR)
National Collaborative on Aging
National Eczema Association
National Foundation for Ectodermal Dysplasias
National Fragile X Foundation
National Health Council

National Kidney Foundation
National Marfan Foundation
National MPS Society
National Multiple Sclerosis Society
National Organization for Rare Disorders (NORD)
National Osteoporosis Foundation
National PKU Alliance
National Postdoctoral Association
National Primate Research Centers
National Psoriasis Foundation
National Sleep Foundation
National Tay-Sachs & Allied Diseases Association, Inc. (NTSAD)
Nebraska Center for Virology
NephCure Foundation
New York Medical College
New York Stem Cell Foundation
New Jersey Association for Biomedical Research (NJABR)
Northwest Association for Biomedical Research
Nova Southeastern University College of Dental Medicine.
NYU Langone Medical Center
The Ohio State University Medical Center
The Olive Branch Fund
Oregon Health & Science University
Pancreatic Cancer Action Network
Parkinson's Action Network
Partners HealthCare
Penn Medicine
Penn State College of Medicine
Pennsylvania Society for Biomedical Research
The Periodic Paralysis Association
The Peripheral Arterial Disease Coalition
Personal Genome Project
PersonalGenomes.org
Personalized Medicine Coalition
Personalized Medicine Partners, LLC
PhDx Systems, Inc.
PKD Foundation
Prader-Willi Alliance of New York, Inc.
Prader-Willi Syndrome Association (USA)
The Praxis Project
Project Inform
Preeclampsia Foundation
Pulmonary Hypertension Association
PWSA (USA)
PXE International
QIAGEN
Quest Diagnostics Incorporated
The Rare Bone Disease Patient Network
Research!America
Results for Life
Rett Syndrome Research Trust
Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey
Scalable Computing Experts Inc.
Scleroderma Foundation
Sickle Cell Disease Association of America (SCDAA)
The Sickle Cell Disease Association of Illinois

SistaMoon Foundation for Devic's Disease
Sjögren's Syndrome Foundation
Society for Clinical and Translational Research
Society for General Internal Medicine
Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine
Society for Neuroscience
Society for Women's Health Research
Society of Behavioral Medicine
Society of Gynecologic Oncologists
Society of Hospital Medicine
Southwest Association for Education in Biomedical Research
Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital
St. Georges University School of Medicine
Stanford University School of Medicine
The State University of New York
The Stennis Foundation
Sudden Arrhythmia Death Syndromes (SADS) Foundation
Sudden Cardiac Arrest Association
Tennessee Association of People With AIDS
Test Positive Aware Network
The TMJ Association
Treatment Action Group
The Tuberous Sclerosis Alliance
Turner Syndrome Society of the United States
UNICConnect LC
The United Mitochondrial Disease Foundation
United Ostomy Associations of America
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
University of California
University of California, Davis
University of Central Arkansas
University of Kentucky
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center
The University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing
University of Pittsburgh
University of Rochester
University of South Carolina
University of Utah
University of Virginia
University of Wisconsin-Madison
Vanderbilt University
Vascular Disease Foundation
Venous Disease Coalition
VHL Family Alliance
Washington University in St. Louis
The XLH Network, Inc.
Yale University
Zephyr L.T.N.P. Foundation