

May 3, 2024

The Hon. Tammy Baldwin
Chair
Senate Appropriations Committee
Subcommittee on Labor-HHS-Education
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Hon. Shelley Moore Capito
Ranking Member
Senate Appropriations Committee
Subcommittee on Labor-HHS-Education
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Hon. Robert Aderholt
Chair
House Appropriations Committee
Subcommittee on Labor-HHS-Education
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Hon. Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Committee
Subcommittee on Labor-HHS-Education
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair Baldwin, Ranking Member Capito, Chair Aderholt, and Ranking Member DeLauro,

The undersigned organizations thank you for your continued leadership of the annual appropriations process. As you determine Fiscal Year 2025 (FY25) appropriation levels, we respectfully request that you fund the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H) at a level that enables the agency to expand the scope of its vital work. Specifically, we request that you allocate at least \$1.7 billion to ARPA-H for FY25, in a manner that supplements, rather than supplants, funding for the National Institutes of Health and other research and public health agencies funded through the FY25 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies (LHHS) Appropriations Bill.

On a bipartisan basis, Congress established ARPA-H to complement NIH's pivotal role with a focus on end product-driven R&D, collaboration across scientific disciplines, and a public-private approach. Like other ARPA agencies, ARPA-H selects projects through a process that emphasizes risk-taking and specific results, requiring projects to meet detailed milestones or be discontinued. Accordingly, funding for NIH and ARPA-H should be treated as distinct priorities in the appropriations process, each delivering important health, economic, and security benefits to our nation and its people.

ARPA-H is already proving its value. In its two years of operation, ARPA-H has launched 15 research programs and opened two mission-distinct hubs located in Texas and Massachusetts that have a network of partners spanning the entire nation. ARPA-H is taking big bets with its sights set on such goals as reversing and preventing blindness and revolutionizing the treatment of osteoarthritis (which affects 1 in 7 Americans and costs the American economy over \$138 billion in medical costs and lost earnings each year), galvanizing research to address the unique health needs of women and advancing precision cancer therapies.

We urge you to support a \$1.7 billion funding level for ARPA-H in the FY25 LHHS Appropriations Bill, an \$200 million increase over FY24 funding. Growing the agency's budget will enable the agency to capitalize on more opportunities to out-innovate deadly and debilitating health threats, whether longstanding or emerging, that compromise the health and wellbeing of the American people.

Thank you for considering this request, and please convey our appreciation to your respective staff members for their dedication and hard work on behalf of us all.

Sincerely,

AcademyHealth
Alzheimer's Association / Alzheimer's Impact Movement
American Association for Dental, Oral, and Craniofacial Research
American Association of Immunologists
American Heart Association
American Society for Microbiology
American Society for Nutrition
American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics (ASPET)
American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene
Association for Clinical Oncology (ASCO)
Association of American Cancer Institutes
Association of Independent Research Institutes
BrightFocus Foundation
Case Western Reserve University
Center for Endometriosis Care
Coalition for the Life Sciences
Columbia University
Duke University
Duke University Health System
Emory
Federation of Associations in Behavioral & Brain Sciences
Fight Colorectal Cancer
Flagship Pioneering
Foundation Fighting Blindness
Friedreich's Ataxia Research Alliance (FARA)
Georgia Institute of Technology
GO2 for Lung Cancer
Harvard University
Hydrocephalus Association
JDRF
Kano Therapeutics
Keck School of Medicine of USC
Lasker Foundation
Lupus and Allied Diseases Association, Inc.
Mass General Brigham
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Michelson Center for Public Policy
National Association of Veterans' Research and Education Foundations
National Ataxia Foundation
National Foundation for Infectious Diseases (NFID)
National Health Council
National Organization for Rare Disorders

PBM Foundation
Penn State University
Portal Biotechnologies
Research!America
Rice University
San Diego State University
Sepsis Alliance
Solve M.E.
Stanford University
The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research
TSC Alliance
Tulane University
UC San Diego
UCLA
Undiagnosed Diseases Network Foundation
University of California System
University of California, Davis
University of Iowa
University of Maryland, Baltimore
University of Maryland, College Park
UsAgainstAlzheimer's
VentureWell
Washington University in St. Louis

CC: The Honorable Patty Murray, Chair, Senate Appropriations Committee
The Honorable Susan Collins, Vice Chair, Senate Appropriations Committee
The Honorable Tom Cole, Chair, House Appropriations Committee