

April 27, 2016

The Honorable Lamar Alexander  
Chairman  
Committee on Health, Education,  
Labor and Pensions  
United States Senate  
428 Senate Dirksen Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patty Murray  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Health, Education,  
Labor and Pensions  
United States Senate  
428 Senate Dirksen Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Alexander and Ranking Member Murray,

The undersigned organizations are writing to thank you for assigning a top priority to advancing Innovations legislation and to offer our strong support as you work to secure “pay-fors” and bring a meaningful bipartisan bill to the Senate floor. We are truly grateful for the time and effort you and your staff members have devoted to the Innovations initiative. Your commitment to patients and their loved ones is clear. Please continue to fight for this initiative; your efforts to spur faster medical progress now will benefit Americans for generations.

Because of your vision and determination, the Innovations effort encompasses a surge in funding for the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The groundbreaking research NIH fosters, coupled with private sector investment and innovation, fuels our economy, grows jobs and most importantly saves lives. By putting more muscle behind NIH at a time of unprecedented opportunity for breakthrough progress, the Innovations initiative can -- and will -- shift the fight against deadly and debilitating diseases into high gear.

It is profoundly meaningful that you and other esteemed members of the Senate, including Finance Committee Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden, and Senate Majority Leader McConnell and Minority Leader Reid, are working together to craft and advance the Innovations package. Every American family has confronted illnesses that breed suffering and take loved ones too soon. You are fighting back on our behalf and we thank you.

Please call upon our organizations if we can assist in your efforts.

Sincerely,

Research!America  
Abe's Garden  
Academy of Radiology Research  
AgeneBio, Inc.  
Ali's Angels Foundation  
Alzheimer and Dementia Alliance of Wisconsin  
Alzheimer's Mississippi  
American Academy of Neurology  
American Academy of Nursing  
American Academy of Pediatrics  
American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy  
American Association of Neurological Surgeons  
American College of Clinical Pharmacy (ACCP)  
American College of Clinical Pharmacy Research Institute  
American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics  
American College of Neuropsychopharmacology  
American College of Nurse-Midwives  
American College of Surgeons  
American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists  
American Dental Education Association  
American Federation for Medical Research  
American Foundation for Suicide Prevention  
American Geriatrics Society  
American Heart Association  
American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering  
American Lung Association  
American Society of Nephrology  
American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene  
Association for Clinical and Translational Science  
Association of American Cancer Institutes  
Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges  
Association of Anatomy Cell Biology and Neurobiology Chairs  
Association of Independent Research Institutes  
Autism Speaks  
Aware of Angels

Batten Disease Support and Research Association  
Baylor College of Medicine  
Bert's Big Adventure  
Beyond Celiac  
Biophysical Society  
Bonnie J. Addario Lung Cancer Foundation  
Brain Injury Association of America  
Bridge the Gap - SYNGAP Education and Research Foundation  
Caregiver Action Network  
Castleman Disease Collaborative Network  
Children's National Health Systems  
Children's Cardiomyopathy Foundation  
Coalition for Clinical and Translational Science  
Coalition for Clinical Trials Awareness  
Coalition for Imaging and Bioengineering Research  
Coalition for the Life Sciences  
Congress of Neurological Surgeons  
CURE - Citizens United for Research in Epilepsy  
Cure HHT  
Cure JM Foundation  
Cure Sanfilippo Foundation  
debra of America  
Duke University and Duke University Health System  
EB Research Partnership  
EDSers United Foundation  
Emory University  
EveryLife Foundation for Rare Diseases  
Fabry Support & Information Group  
FasterCures  
Feinstein Institute  
Fight Colorectal Cancer  
Foundation Fighting Blindness  
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center  
Friedreich's Ataxia Research Alliance (FARA)  
Gene Giraffe Project  
Genetic Alliance  
GNE Myopathy International  
Harvard School of Dental Medicine  
Hermansky-Pudlak Syndrome Network  
HIV Medicine Association  
Hydrocephalus Association  
IMRIS  
Infectious Diseases Society of America  
International WAGR Syndrome Association  
International Waldenstrom's Macroglobulinemia Foundation  
Johns Hopkins University  
Johnson & Johnson  
Keystone Symposia  
Kids v Cancer  
let them be little X2 Foundation  
Louisiana State University  
Lupus Foundation of America  
March of Dimes  
McLaughlin Research Institute  
Mended Hearts  
Mended Little Hearts  
MLD Foundation  
Moffitt Cancer Center  
Mount Sinai Center for Cognitive Health  
National Alliance for Eye and Vision Research  
National Alliance on Mental Illness  
National Alopecia Areata Foundation  
National Down Syndrome Society  
National Health Council  
National Leiomyosarcoma Foundation  
National MPS Society  
National Multiple Sclerosis Society  
National Organization for Rare Disorders (NORD)  
National Patient Advocate Foundation  
National PKU Alliance  
National Stroke Association  
Neurotechnology Industry Organization  
New Jersey Association for Biomedical Research

Noah's Hope  
North American Vascular Biology Organization  
Northeast Ohio Medical University  
Northwest Association for Biomedical Research  
Organic Acidemia Association  
OWL-The Voice of Women 40+  
Parent Project Muscular Dystrophy  
Parkinson's Action Network  
Penn Medicine  
Penn State College of Medicine  
Prevent Cancer Foundation  
Pulmonary Fibrosis Advocates  
PXE International  
Rally Foundation for Childhood Cancer Research  
Rare & Undiagnosed Network  
Rare Disease United Foundation  
RARE Science, Inc  
RASopathies Network USA  
SAVIR  
Shepherd University  
Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine  
Society for Neuroscience  
Society for Women's Health Research  
Spastic Paraplegia Foundation  
SSADH Association  
Stanford University  
Taylor's Tale  
Texas Biomedical Research Institute  
The ALS Association  
The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia  
The Clinical Research Forum  
The Foundation for Ichthyosis & Related Skin Types, Inc.  
The Foundation for Prader-Willi Research  
The Kortney Rose Foundation  
The Mastocytosis Society  
The Nicholas Conor Institute  
Tuberous Sclerosis Alliance  
UAB School of Medicine  
University of California System  
University of Colorado, Anschutz Medical Campus  
University of Maryland School of Medicine  
University of Massachusetts Medical School  
University of Pennsylvania  
University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine  
UsAgainstAlzheimer's  
USF Health Byrd Alzheimer's Institute  
Usher 1F Collaborative, Inc.  
UTHealth - The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston  
Weill Cornell Medicine  
With Purpose  
Youngstown/Warren Regional Chamber  
ZERO - The End of Prostate Cancer

cc: The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
The Honorable Harry Reid  
The Honorable Orrin Hatch  
The Honorable Ron Wyden