
February 10, 2022

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chair
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Richard Shelby
Vice Chair
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa L. DeLauro
Chair
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Kay Granger
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Leahy, Chairwoman DeLauro, Vice Chair Shelby, and Ranking Member Granger,

The undersigned members of the Friends of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) write to urge the prompt passage of the fiscal year (FY) 2022 appropriations bills with increases for public health programs including the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the NIEHS. We encourage Congress to move forward in good faith negotiations and to provide at least \$46.1 billion for the NIH. As part of our overall recommendation for the NIH, we ask you to provide at least **\$888.7 million for the NIEHS in FY2022**.

We are concerned that a full-year continuing resolution (CR) would further disrupt the biomedical research enterprise, including the unique research led by the NIEHS. Due to the uncertainty of a CR, the NIEHS is unable to fully commit anticipated resources to multi-year grants, resulting in delays in funding for extremely competitive grants and high-impact new projects.

Support for NIEHS's research programs have increased importance with the public health challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic and a more complex set of environmental exposures that influence the progression of diseases, including, but not limited to, cancer, autism, asthma, Parkinson's disease, autoimmune diseases, chemical intolerance or toxicant-induced loss of tolerance, and chemical sensitivities in adults and children.

The NIEHS is poised to generate many exciting new discoveries about the impact of environmental factors, including climate change, on human health. The member organizations of the Friends of NIEHS look forward to your acknowledging the importance of biomedical research to the nation's public health infrastructure by providing at least **\$888.7 million for the NIEHS in FY2022**.

Sincerely,

American Academy of Pediatrics
American Geophysical Union
American Industrial Hygiene Association

American Thoracic Society
Association of Public Health Laboratories
Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America
Breast Cancer Prevention Partners
Endocrine Society
Foundation for Sarcoidosis Research
Healthy Environment and Endocrine Disruptor Strategies, HEEDS.org
Huntington Breast Cancer Action Coalition, Inc.
March of Dimes
The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research
The Myositis Association (TMA)
National Environmental Health Association (NEHA)
Natural Resources Defense Council
Sierra Club
Society for Birth Defects Research and Prevention
Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine
Society of Toxicology (SOT)
Society for Women's Health Research