

January 23, 2018

The Honorable Tammy Duckworth  
524 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Duckworth,

The Endocrine Society would like to thank you for introducing a Resolution expressing support for the designation of a “Women’s Health Research Day.” We applaud the acknowledgment in the resolution of the January 2016 National Institutes of Health (NIH) policy to require investigators to consider sex as a critical biological variable in federally funded research.

Founded in 1916, the Endocrine Society is the world’s oldest, largest, and most active organization devoted to research on hormones and the clinical practice of endocrinology. The Society’s membership of over 18,000 includes many basic and clinical researchers dedicated to curing disease through biomedical research and many experts in women’s health research. We are grateful for your acknowledgement of the critical role of sex differences in preclinical research and clinical trials, and we agree that more work needs to be done to include women in clinical trials and to investigate sex specific effects in research.

A significant component of rigor and completeness in research is the investigation of sex specific effects. The Endocrine Society asserts that careful consideration of sex differences in all phases of the research enterprise is necessary to improve the health of women and men, and also to maximize the return on taxpayers’ investment in biomedical research. We support the Resolution’s attention to the need to support efforts to recognize the importance of biomedical research to women’s health, increase awareness of the value of sex and gender-based biomedical research, and advocate for more inclusive research studies and greater participation in research efforts.

The Endocrine Society sincerely appreciates your leadership in championing equity in biomedical research, and we are pleased to endorse the Resolution. We would be happy to work with you in other efforts to support biomedical research and public health. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us at any time by contacting Mila Becker, Chief Policy Officer at [mbecker@endocrine.org](mailto:mbecker@endocrine.org).

Sincerely,



Barbara Byrd Keenan  
Chief Executive Officer  
Endocrine Society