

February 7, 2022

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Chair, Committee on Appropriations
U.S House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chair, Committee on Appropriations
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kay Granger
Ranking Member, Committee on
Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Richard Shelby
Vice Chairman, Committee on Appropriations
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

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

On behalf of the Endocrine Society, I am writing today to urge the prompt passage of final Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 appropriations bills with robust increases for public health programs including the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Founded in 1916, the Endocrine Society is the world's oldest and largest professional organization of researchers and clinicians dedicated to studying and treating hormone diseases. Our membership includes basic and clinical scientists who receive support from NIH for research on endocrine diseases that affect millions of Americans, such as diabetes, thyroid disorders, cancer, infertility, aging, obesity and bone disease. Our membership also includes clinicians who depend on new scientific advances to better treat and cure these diseases. We are dedicated to promoting excellence in research, education, and clinical practice in the field of endocrinology.

We appreciate that negotiations on FY 2022 appropriations have been progressing, but we remain concerned that additional continuing resolutions (CRs) beyond the February 18 deadline would further destabilize the public health and biomedical research enterprise, which is already suffering due to COVID-19 induced disruptions. Because of the uncertainty of a CR, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention will operate with even more restricting funding for core chronic disease programs and NIH will be unable to fully commit anticipated resources to multi-year grants, resulting in delays in funding for extremely competitive grants and high-impact new projects. These delays have real impacts, as support staff on clinical trials may need to find other employment, and graduate students and postdocs are unable to carry out work towards the completion of necessary projects to advance their careers.

The House and Senate Appropriations Committees have rightly prioritized biomedical research and disease prevention as part of the nation's public health infrastructure by proposing a robust increase for NIH and CDC in draft spending bills. While emergency appropriations packages have provided some much-needed relief, the most effective path forward includes prompt attention to regular appropriations that provides predictable, sustainable, and timely increases in funding.

We encourage Congress to move forward in good faith negotiations to fund the government for FY 2022 and include a strong investment in health-related agencies by providing at least \$119.8 billion to HHS and at least \$46.1 billion to NIH and at least \$10 billion for CDC. Our members look forward to advancing endocrine science and working with you to continue to support the health of all Americans. Thank you



for your attention; if we can be of any further assistance please contact Joe Laakso, PhD, Director of Science Policy at jlakso@endocrine.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carol H. Wysham". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Carol H. Wysham, MD
President
Endocrine Society