

CALL TO ACTION: TELL CONGRESS TO PROTECT NIH FUNDING

Email the below letter to your Congressional representatives. Feel free to edit with personal details or experience.

As a constituent who cares deeply about improving the health of our nation, I am concerned about cuts to research at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), policies being implemented that have prevented the release of appropriated funds for peer-reviewed grants, and a potential reorganization of the agency that is not being conducted transparently. Continued disruption will make the NIH – the world’s leader in medical research – ineffective and inefficient.

Without immediate Congressional intervention, I am extremely concerned that the NIH will not be able to deliver grant funds by the end of the fiscal year, resulting in an effective impoundment. This would delay or halt life-saving research, disrupt clinical trials and networks, cause loss of jobs, and force early-stage investigators and trainees to consider alternatives to medical research careers, threatening our competitive edge in scientific discovery. The premature end to in-progress research studies would also waste substantial taxpayer funds on incomplete projects. I urge you to contact HHS and NIH to ensure that NIH reestablishes effective processes for the distribution of funds following regular peer review processes to support new and ongoing meritorious research proposals.

I am also extremely concerned that NIH is being asked by HHS to implement substantial cuts for FY 2025, develop restructuring plans, and implement policy changes without transparency and absent any Congressional oversight. We ask Congress to exercise its oversight authority immediately and have HHS halt any pending changes to the reorganization of NIH and instead provide a scientific and policy rationale for these changes with an opportunity for Congress and stakeholder comment to preserve the agency’s essential functions and full range of research on conditions affecting Americans across the lifespan continues.

Finally, I urge you to reject the administration’s request to cut NIH funding to \$27.9 billion in FY 2026 and support the NIH with at least \$51.303 billion in Fiscal Year 2026. If these cuts are realized, the bipartisan investments that Congress has made in NIH over the years will be eroded, setting science and the country’s biomedical research enterprise back for decades resulting in fewer new cures and poorer health for Americans. Should this funding be cut off—and ultimately impounded—it will take years for NIH and the country’s biomedical research community to recover.

I am grateful for the bipartisan support Congress has given NIH in the past and urge you to protect NIH by providing steady, sustainable support for biomedical research now and in FY26.

Thank you.