



October 20, 2022

The Honorable Patty Murray
Chair
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on
Labor, Health and Human Services, Education,
and Related Agencies
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Chair
House Appropriations Committee & Subcommittee on
Labor, Health and Human Services, Education,
and Related Agencies
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Roy Blunt
Ranking Member
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on
Labor, Health and Human Services, Education,
and Related Agencies
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Tom Cole
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Subcommittee on
Labor, Health and Human Services, Education
and Related Agencies
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chair DeLauro, Chair Murray, Ranking Member Cole and Ranking Member Blunt:

Thank you for your ongoing bipartisan, bicameral, and steadfast leadership in support of cancer research and prevention programs. As members of One Voice Against Cancer (OVAC), a broad coalition of public interest groups representing millions of cancer patients, researchers, providers, survivors, and their families, we urge you to prioritize funding for cancer research and prevention during your negotiations over the Fiscal Year 2023 Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations bill.

OVAC Requests for the National Cancer Institute and National Institutes of Health

NCI: \$7.766 billion, the amount recommended by NCI in its FY 2023 professional judgment budget, or at least the House Appropriations Committee-passed bill level of \$7.379 billion.

NIH: \$49.048 billion, or at least the House Committee - passed bill level of \$47.459 billion.

Thanks to the subcommittees you lead, Congress has increased funding for NIH by \$14.9 billion over the past seven years. We are especially grateful that you have dedicated funding to address the precipitous decline in the success rate for Research Project Grant applications at NCI.

As you know, the NCI is experiencing a demand for research funding that is far beyond that of any other Institute or Center (IC). This demand for NCI funding reflects the extraordinary progress that is being made in many areas of cancer research, the lack of progress for some cancers, and the potential for new breakthroughs. We urge you to take these factors into account when allocating NIH funding.

OVAC supports the creation of the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H) and has provided recommendations for its design and implementation. Funding for the new agency should not prevent robust increases for the NCI and other core NIH research programs.

OVAC Requests for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Division of Cancer Prevention and Control (DCPC): \$462.6- million. About half of the over 600,000 cancer deaths that will occur this year could be averted through the application of existing cancer control interventions. Unfortunately, in sharp contrast to funding for the NIH, federal funding for CDC cancer programs has remained almost flat for many years.

Between FY 2010 and FY 2022, funding for the DCPC increased by just \$19.4 million, or 4.9 percent, from \$389.3 million to \$389.8 million. The DCPC provides key resources to states and communities to prevent cancer by ensuring that at-risk, low-income communities have access to vital cancer prevention programs. However, information about the benefits of early education and access to potentially lifesaving screenings is not always equitable, creating significant disparities in cancer outcomes.

The consequence of such disparities is that cancer is more often diagnosed at later stages when options for treatment may be limited and the odds for survival are lower.

Below please find OVAC's requests for key programs within the DCPC:

- National Comprehensive Cancer Control Program: **\$30.2 million**
- National Program of Cancer Registries: **\$61.4 million**
- National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program: **\$258 million overall, \$225 million** not counting Wisewoman
- Colorectal Cancer Control Program: **\$50 million**
- National Skin Cancer Prevention Education Program: **\$5 million**
- Prostate Cancer Awareness Campaign: **\$20 million**
- Ovarian Cancer Control Initiative: **\$15 million**
- Gynecologic Cancer and Education and Awareness (Johanna's Law): **\$15 million**
- Cancer Survivorship Resource Center: **\$1 million**
- Breast Cancer for Young Woman: **\$7 million**

If you have questions, please contact Tammy Boyd, VP of Federal Advocacy and Strategic Alliances of the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, at Tammy.Boyd@cancer.org Once again, thank you for your continued leadership on funding issues important in the fight against cancer.

Sincerely,

American Academy of Dermatology Association
American Association for Cancer Research
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network
American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer
American Institute for Cancer Research
American Society for Radiation Oncology
American Society of Clinical Oncology
American Urological Association
Association of American Cancer Institutes
Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network
Brem Foundation to Defeat Breast Cancer
Cancer Support Community
Charlene Miers Foundation for Cancer Research
Children's Cause for Cancer Advocacy
Deadliest Cancers Coalition
Debbie's Dream Foundation: Curing Stomach Cancer
Dermatology Nurses' Association
Esophageal Cancer Action Network
Fight Colorectal Cancer
Friends of Cancer Research
Go2 Foundation for Lung Cancer
Hematology/Oncology Pharmacy Association
Intercultural Cancer Council Coalition
International Myeloma Foundation
Kidney Cancer Action Network
Life Raft Group
LIVESTRONG Foundation
LUNgevity Foundation
Melanoma Research Foundation
Men's Health Network
Mesothelioma Applied Research Foundation
National Alliance of State Prostate Cancer Coalitions
National Association of Chronic Disease Directors
National Brain Tumor Society
National Cancer Registrars Association
North American Association of Central Cancer Registries, Inc.
Oncology Nursing Society
Ovarian Cancer Research Fund Alliance
Pancreatic Cancer Action Network
Pennsylvania Prostate Cancer Coalition
Prevent Cancer Foundation

Prostate Cancer Foundation
Prostate Conditions Education Council
Sarcoma Foundation of America
Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer
Society of Gynecologic Oncology
St. Baldrick's Foundation
Stomach Cancer Action Network
Susan G. Komen
The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society
Triage Cancer
ZERO - The End of Prostate Cancer