



November 18, 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 Chair
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

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

The 31 undersigned patient, provider, and research organizations that are members of the Friends of the National Institute of Diabetes, Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK) urge Congress to complete the FY 2023 omnibus funding bill with at least \$47.5 billion for the base budget of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and a comparable increase for the NIDDK.

We are concerned that extending the current continuing resolution (CR) beyond the December 16 expiration date will negatively impact research at the NIH and NIDDK. Because of the uncertainty of a CR, 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



affect patients waiting for new treatments and cures, researchers, lab staff, graduate students and postdocs.

As members of the NIDDK research community, we also want to call your attention to the innovative work that is underway and at stake at this Institute. We encourage you to review the recent publication: *NIDDK: Recent Advances and Emerging Opportunities (2022)*, which highlights important research advances published by NIDDK-funded scientists and their colleagues in FY 2021. It also contains “Personal Perspectives” of people who have given time and effort to participate in NIDDK-sponsored clinical research. The two-page *Executive Summary*, which provides a snapshot of the advances and other research activities detailed in the annual report, may be a particularly helpful resource to you.

Our nation’s progress to advance cures and treatments to fight diabetes and obesity, digestive, kidney, liver, urologic and hematologic diseases requires building on the longstanding bipartisan commitment to medical research. The House and Senate Appropriations Committees have recognized the importance of biomedical research as part of the nation’s public health infrastructure by proposing a robust increase for NIH 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 thank you for your leadership in recognizing the incomparable value of the federal investment in the NIH to protect the nation’s health and security. We urge you to move swiftly to pass a final appropriations bill that provides at least \$47.5 billion for the NIH base budget and at least \$2.485 billion for the NIDDK to ensure we lead the world in providing new and better cures, diagnostics, and treatments while protecting all patients and the research enterprise.

If you have any questions or if you would like additional information about the work of NIDDK, please contact Mila Becker at mbecker@endocrine.org who will be happy to assist or provide you with a contact at any of the organizations below.

Sincerely,

Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases
American Diabetes Association
American Gastroenterological Association
American Kidney Fund
American Liver Foundation
American Nephrology Nurses Association



American Psychological Association Services, Inc.
American Society for Nutrition
American Society of Hematology
American Society of Nephrology
American Urogynecologic Society
Beyond Celiac
Choose Healthy Life
Crohn's & Colitis Foundation
Digestive Disease National Coalition
Endocrine Society
Global Liver Institute
International Foundation for Gastrointestinal Disorders
Interstitial Cystitis Association
JDRF
National Kidney Foundation
National Pancreas Foundation
NephCure Kidney International
Nutrition and Medical Foods Coalition
Organic Acidemia Association
PKD Foundation
Project Sleep
Sleep Research Society
Society of Pediatric Nephrology
The Simon Foundation for Continence

cc:

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi, Speaker, U.S. House of Representatives
The Honorable Kevin McCarthy, Minority Leader, U.S. House of Representatives
The Honorable Charles Schumer, Majority Leader, U.S. Senate
The Honorable Mitch McConnell, Minority Leader, U.S. Senate