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J. Randy Forbes
United States Congress

4th District, Virginia

April 15, 2013

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The Honorable Harold Rogers
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C., 20515

The Honorable Jack Kingston
Chairman
Subcommittee on Labor, HHS & Education
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nita Lowey
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C., 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Labor, HHS & Education
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Rogers, Ranking Member Lowey, Chairman Kingston and Ranking Member DeLauro:

As someone who recognizes the critical role medical research plays in the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of diseases and cancers, I strongly urge you to continue to recognize the important contributions of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), as you consider appropriations for Fiscal Year 2014.

Supporting our nation's premier medical research institute's ability to invest in programs in medical and disease research dramatically improves the quality of life for Americans and ultimately saves money on healthcare costs. NIH supports, and is responsible for, research that private companies cannot undertake alone. Their research has led to major advancements in our understanding of diseases like Alzheimer's, cancer, and Parkinson's, making it imperative that we prioritize funding for medical research that will provide the most benefit to patients in the most efficient manner possible.

There is no question that we must make tough decisions in our current fiscal climate, but with the research community on the verge of numerous medical advancements, I strongly believe that we as lawmakers should do all we can to encourage the forms of medical research that show the most promise for curing and treating patients. I appreciate your willingness to consider the value and promise of medical research as you work to finalize appropriations for the next fiscal year.

Sincerely,



J. RANDY FORBES
Member of Congress