



THE AD HOC GROUP FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

For Immediate Release
Contact: Stuart Heiser
202-828-0059
sheiser@aamc.org

Ad Hoc Group Statement on Draft House FY 2020 Labor-HHS Appropriations Bill

April 30, 2019 – *The Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research issued the following statement in response to the draft fiscal year (FY) 2020 spending bill approved April 30 by the House Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations Subcommittee (Labor-HHS).*

The Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research applauds the Labor-HHS Subcommittee for its efforts to continue the exceptional commitment to medical research supported by the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

In addition to providing the hope of better health to millions of patients, NIH funding drives science, accelerates innovation, boosts our global competitiveness, and supports local economies. We are grateful that the Subcommittee's draft FY 2020 spending bill includes a \$2 billion increase to advance the sustained, meaningful budget growth above inflation that is necessary to make these objectives a reality. In particular, we are appreciative that the draft bill would continue the sustained funding momentum of the last four years through an increase in NIH's base budget, supporting all institutes and centers across the agency.

We are grateful to House Subcommittee Chair Rosa DeLauro (D-Conn.) and Ranking Member Tom Cole (R-Okla.) for the longstanding emphasis they have placed on the importance of medical research, and we are mindful that the FY 2020 appropriations process is just getting underway and will require action to raise the discretionary spending caps. In the meantime, the Ad Hoc Group looks forward to reviewing additional details and continuing to work with lawmakers in both chambers toward quick enactment of a bipartisan bill that provides a robust increase for NIH in FY 2020.

The Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research is a coalition of over 300 patient and voluntary health groups, medical and scientific societies, academic and research organizations, and industry. The Ad Hoc Group has one mission: to enhance the federal investment in biomedical, behavioral, social, and population-based research by increasing the funding for the National Institutes of Health.