



THE AD HOC GROUP FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

For Immediate Release
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Ad Hoc Group Statement on Senate Labor-HHS Appropriations Bill

September 8, 2017 – *The Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research issued the following statement in response to the fiscal year (FY) 2018 Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations (Labor-HHS) spending bill approved September 7 by the Senate Appropriations Committee:*

The Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research applauds the Committee for continuing in FY 2018 its steadfast 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 advances science, innovation, and economic growth. The nearly \$2 billion increase included in this bill keenly reflects the sustainable, predictable growth necessary to make these objectives a reality. We are grateful to Labor-HHS Subcommittee Chair Roy Blunt (R-Mo.) and Ranking Member Patty Murray (D-Wash.), as well as their House counterparts, for their ongoing leadership in championing such a budget trajectory for the agency over the long term.

As the process moves forward, we look forward to working with lawmakers to achieve a bipartisan discretionary budget agreement that enables such investments in NIH to be enacted in FY 2018 and beyond, without the threat of sequestration.

The Ad Hoc Group appreciates the tireless work of the Committee to ensure the U.S. remains the unquestionable global leader in medical research and its longstanding recognition that the promise of new cures, diagnostics, and treatments offered through NIH is invaluable.

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.