



Support Robust Funding for the National Institutes of Health, the Food and Drug Administration, and 21st Century Cures Implementation

Congressional Ask

We request a **\$2 billion increase** in the annual discretionary funding for the **National Institutes of Health (NIH)** in the FY 2018 Labor-Health and Human Services-Education Appropriations Act; **\$2.8 billion for the Food and Drug Administration (FDA)** in the FY 2018 Agriculture Appropriations Act; and that appropriators **release the targeted FY 2018 Innovation fund** dollars for NIH and FDA included in the 21st Cures Act.

Rationale for NIH and FDA

It is estimated that 1 in 10 individuals has a rare disease. There may be as many as 8,000 rare diseases but unfortunately, the vast majority (95%) do not yet have a treatment approved by the FDA. Funding the NIH supports research that strengthens the biomedical infrastructure across America while driving forward science that can lead to new therapies and cures. NIH is the world's leading funder of basic biomedical research, supporting breakthroughs in how we understand and treat deadly and debilitating diseases. Every dollar invested in research by the NIH generates an estimated \$2.20 in local economic growth.

The FDA plays a critical role by providing a thorough review of innovative medicines and devices that may benefit rare disease patients.

Build on the Momentum of 21st Century Cures

The 21st Century Cures Act supports innovation to speed discovery, development and delivery of new treatments and cures to patients, and incorporates the patient voice in the process. An NIH Innovation Fund and an FDA Innovation Fund were created to carry out the priorities enacted in the legislation. We urge Congress to release the funding in the Innovation Funds for FY 2018.

- NIH Innovation Fund: \$496,000,000
- FDA Innovation Fund: \$60,000,000

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