



**Association of
American Medical Colleges**

655 K Street, N.W., Suite 100, Washington, D.C. 20001-2399
T 202 828 0400 F 202 828 1125
www.aamc.org

Darrell G. Kirch, M.D.
President and Chief Executive Officer

June 24, 2014

The Honorable Tom Harkin
Chair
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Harkin:

The Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) is pleased to endorse the Accelerating Biomedical Research Act to protect the lifesaving medical research supported and conducted by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) from budgetary pressures such as sequestration.

This bill would adjust the budget caps over the remaining fiscal years of the Budget Control Act (BCA) to allow the Appropriations Committees not only to restore the purchasing power the NIH has lost to inflation over the past decade, but also to provide the sustained, long term predictable funding growth that is essential to catalyze scientific momentum and address current and emerging health challenges.

On behalf of the AAMC and its members, thank you for your exemplary leadership throughout your Senate tenure in support of medical research and the NIH. Your unwavering support for medical research over the years has provided hope to the millions of Americans who suffer with disease and disability.

The AAMC is proud to endorse this latest example of your leadership, and we look forward to working with you to bring NIH funding to appropriate levels at every opportunity to improve the health of all Americans.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Darrell G. Kirch". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "K".

Darrell G. Kirch, M.D.