

December 21, 2012

The Honorable Harry Reid
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
S-221 U.S. Capitol Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable John Boehner
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
H-232 U.S. Capitol Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Republican Leader
U.S. Senate
S-230 U.S. Capitol Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Democratic Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
H-204 U.S. Capitol Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Congressional Leadership:

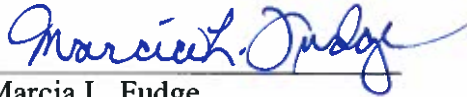
As Congress debates the issues surrounding deficit reduction, we urge you to support a thoughtful, balanced approach, taking into account the critical importance of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). While we recognize addressing the deficit requires difficult decisions, we must keep in mind the impact that federal investments in biomedical research have on creating jobs, saving lives, reducing health costs, and strengthening the nation.

Discoveries arising from NIH-funded research serve as a foundation for the entire U.S. biomedical industry. NIH is a powerful economic engine, investing more than \$31 billion annually in medical research for the American people. In fiscal year 2011, NIH-funded research supported an estimated 432,000 jobs in the U.S. and generated \$62 billion in new economic activity, more than double the tax payers' investment.

After a decade of flat funding, the NIH budget is about 20 percent lower than it was in 2003. Sequestration will reduce NIH funding even more, by over 8 percent. These haphazard cuts threaten the health of sick patients – along with the health of our nation.

We urge you to recognize the value of biomedical research, the jobs it creates and NIH funding. As you work towards a balanced approach to deficit reduction, please thoughtfully consider the economic impact of sequestration on federally-funded biomedical research.

Sincerely,



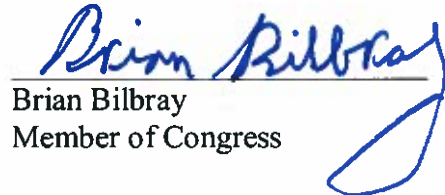
Marcia L. Fudge
Member of Congress



Steve Stivers
Member of Congress



Roscoe Bartlett
Member of Congress



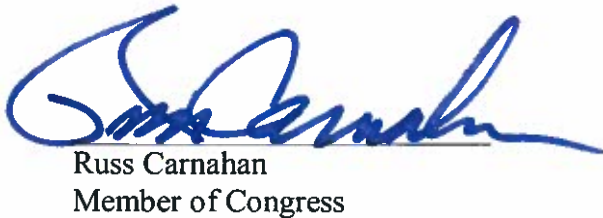
Brian Bilbray
Member of Congress



Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress



Corrine Brown
Member of Congress



Russ Carnahan
Member of Congress



Steve Chabot
Member of Congress



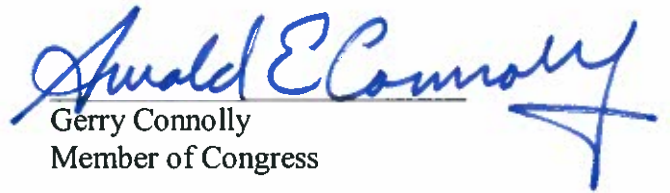
Donna Christensen
Member of Congress



William Lacy Clay
Member of Congress



Steve Cohen
Member of Congress



Gerry Connolly
Member of Congress



Hansen Clarke
Member of Congress



Yvette Clarke
Member of Congress



Jim Cooper
Member of Congress



Elijah Cummings
Member of Congress



Danny Davis
Member of Congress



Peter DeFazio
Member of Congress



Sean Duffy
Member of Congress



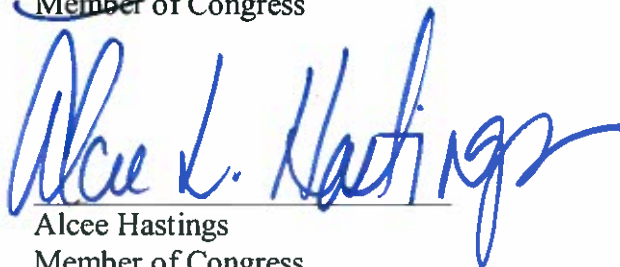
Keith Ellison
Member of Congress



Anna Eshoo
Member of Congress



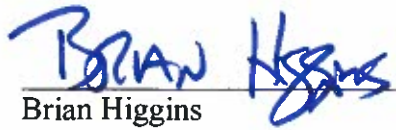
Chaka Fattah
Member of Congress



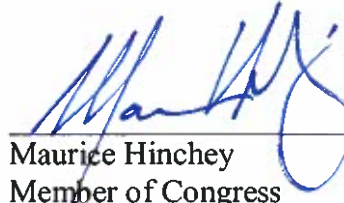
Alcee Hastings
Member of Congress



Vicky Hartzler
Member of Congress



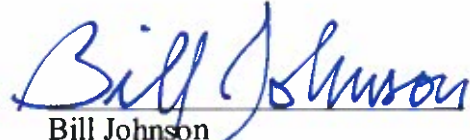
Brian Higgins
Member of Congress



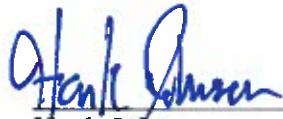
Maurice Hinchey
Member of Congress



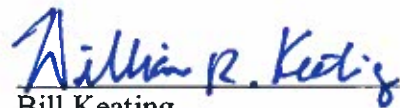
Sheila Jackson Lee
Member of Congress



Bill Johnson
Member of Congress



Hank Johnson
Member of Congress



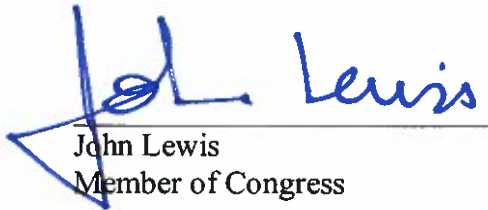
Bill Keating
Member of Congress



Peter King
Member of Congress



Barbara Lee
Member of Congress



John Lewis
Member of Congress



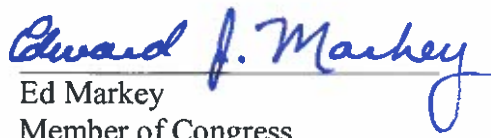
Dave Loebsack
Member of Congress



Jim McGovern
Member of Congress



Carolyn Maloney
Member of Congress




Ed Markey
Member of Congress

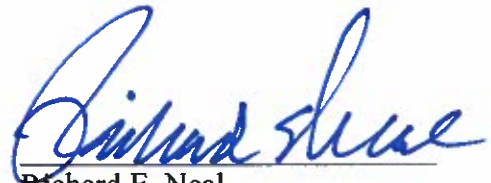


Doris Matsui
Member of Congress



Jim McDermott
Member of Congress


Gwen Moore
Member of Congress


Jerrold Nadler
Member of Congress


Richard E. Neal
Member of Congress


Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress

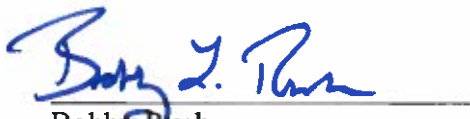

Bill Owens
Member of Congress



David Price
Member of Congress



Charlie Rangel
Member of Congress



Laura Richardson
Member of Congress


C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger
Member of Congress


Bobby Rush
Member of Congress


Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress


Terri Sewell
Member of Congress


Albio Sires
Member of Congress



Louise Slaughter
Member of Congress



Jackie Speier
Member of Congress



Edolphus Towns
Member of Congress



John Tierney
Member of Congress



Niki Tsongas
Member of Congress



Chris Van Hollen
Member of Congress



Frederica Wilson
Member of Congress



Lynn Woolsey
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