



December 18, 2013

The Honorable Barbara Mikulski  
Chairman  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Hal Rogers  
Chairman  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Richard Shelby  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Nita Lowey  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairs Mikulski and Rogers and Ranking Members Shelby and Lowey:

As members of One Voice Against Cancer (OVAC), a coalition of public interest groups representing millions of cancer researchers, patients, survivors, and their families throughout the nation, we ask that you make programs essential to the fight against cancer a top priority as you complete your work on FY 2014 appropriations. Specifically, we ask that you provide the National Institutes of Health (NIH) with a budget of at least \$31 billion and restore the cancer research and prevention funding that was lost last year.

We strongly urge you to provide an allocation for the Labor-HHS appropriations bill that will support the full restoration of funding for cancer research and prevention at the NIH and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Significant progress in the fight against cancer is within reach if this effort is adequately resourced.

Cancer continues to be a leading cause of death, reaching indiscriminately into every state and community. One in two men and one in three women will be diagnosed with cancer in their lifetimes; it is also the number one disease killer of children in this country. Cancer will kill more than 580,000 people in the United States this year and will cost more than \$201 billion in medical care and lost productivity.

Federal cancer research funding saves lives and promotes economic growth at a time when our country is desperate to do both. For all of these reasons, we ask you to ensure that the fight against cancer remains a top national priority. We ask that the funding lost in the past few years for cancer research, prevention, nursing, and other important programs that play a direct role in reducing cancer incidence and mortality be restored. The members of OVAC

thank you for your consideration of this request and stand ready to support your efforts to promote research funding.

Sincerely,

Alliance for Cancer Gene Therapy  
Alliance for Prostate Cancer Prevention  
American Academy of Dermatology Association  
American Association for Cancer Research  
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network  
American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer  
American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists  
American Social Health Association  
American Society of Clinical Oncology  
American Society for Radiation Oncology  
Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum  
Association of American Cancer Institutes  
Association of Community Cancer Centers  
Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network  
Cancer Support Community  
Charlene Miers Foundation for Cancer Research  
Children's Cause for Cancer Advocacy  
Debbie's Dream Foundation: Curing Stomach Cancer  
Esophageal Cancer Action Network  
Fight Colorectal Cancer  
Friends of Cancer Research  
Intercultural Cancer Council Caucus  
International Myeloma Foundation  
LIVESTRONG Foundation  
The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society  
Malecare Prostate Cancer Support  
Men's Health Network  
Mesothelioma Applied Research Foundation  
The MPN Research Foundation  
National Alliance of State Prostate Cancer Coalitions  
National Association of Chronic Disease Directors  
National Brain Tumor Society  
National Cervical Cancer Coalition  
National Coalition for Cancer Research (NCCR)  
National Patient Advocate Foundation  
Oncology Nursing Society  
Ovarian Cancer National Alliance  
Pancreatic Cancer Action Network  
Pennsylvania Prostate Cancer Coalition  
Prevent Cancer Foundation  
Preventing Colorectal Cancer

Sarcoma Foundation of America  
Society of Gynecologic Oncology  
St. Baldrick's Foundation  
Susan G. Komen Advocacy Alliance  
Us TOO International Prostate Cancer Education and Support Network