

DRAFT

Date

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chair
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515
The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Patty Murray
Chair
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510
The Honorable Susan Collins
Vice Chair
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chair Cole, Chair Murray, Ranking Member DeLauro, and Vice Chair Collins:

The [Xnumber] undersigned patient, provider, and research organizations that are members of the Friends of the National Institute of Diabetes, Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK) urge Congress to complete the FY 2025 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies funding bill by the December 20 deadline with at least \$48.9 billion for the base budget of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and a comparable increase for the NIDDK.

We are concerned that extending the current continuing resolution (CR) beyond the December 20 expiration date will negatively impact research at NIH and NIDDK. Because of the uncertainty of a CR, NIH will be unable to fully commit anticipated resources to multi-year grants, resulting in delays in funding for extremely competitive grants and high-impact new projects. These delays affect patients waiting for new treatments and cures, researchers, lab staff, graduate students and postdocs.

As members of the NIDDK research community, we also want to call your attention to the innovative work that is underway and at stake at this Institute. We encourage you to review the recent publication: [NIDDK: Recent Advances and Emerging Opportunities \(2024\)](#), which highlights important research advances published by NIDDK-funded scientists and their colleagues in FY 2023. The two-page [Executive Summary](#) provides a snapshot of the advances and other research activities detailed in the annual report and may be a particularly helpful resource to you.

Our nation's progress to advance cures and treatments to fight diabetes and obesity, digestive, kidney, liver, urologic and hematologic diseases requires building on the longstanding bipartisan commitment to medical research.

We thank you for your leadership in recognizing the incomparable value of the federal investment in the NIH to protect the nation's health and security. We urge you to move swiftly to pass a final appropriations bill that provides at least \$48.9 billion (a 4% increase) for the NIH base budget and a comparable increase for the NIDDK of at least \$2.310 billion for the NIDDK to ensure we lead the world in providing new and better cures, diagnostics, and treatments while protecting all patients and the research enterprise.

If you have any questions or if you would like additional information about the work of NIDDK, please contact Mila Becker at mbecker@endocrine.org who will be happy to assist or provide you with a contact at any of the organizations below.

Sincerely,