

*The Pennsylvania Ad HOC*  
*NIH Funding Advocacy Coalition*

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August 20, 2025

Congressman Guy Reschenthaler  
2209 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Congresswoman Madeleine Dean  
150 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Reschenthaler and Dean:

We write today, representing an ad hoc coalition of institutions across Pennsylvania in the healthcare, medical research and biotechnology sectors, to ask both of you to support the Senate mark for appropriations to the NIH for fiscal year 2026 when the House resumes its appropriations work in September.

We are certain you understand the role of our institutions and many others across the Commonwealth in the contemporary Pennsylvania economy. The “eds and meds,” as we have been colloquially described, are on the cutting edge of lifescience technology development and delivery -- paving the way in economic growth, job creation and a much healthier population in Pennsylvania and beyond. Our world class research yields treatments and cures for all Americans and indeed throughout the world.

We are also certain you know that the 21st century is being defined by competition in science and technology between the United States and China, and that Pennsylvanians and other Americans do not wish to have their healthcare controlled by developments and capabilities in the hands of others.

For decades, support of substantial funding for the NIH – though still an extremely small percentage of discretionary federal spending – has been a bipartisan consensus in Congress, in both Houses, most certainly including among the Pennsylvania delegation, with national leadership on this matter frequently coming from Pennsylvania’s elected representatives to Washington, including Senators Arlen Specter and John Heinz, and Congressman Jack Murtha.

As the bipartisan representatives of the Commonwealth on the House Appropriations Committee, we urge you to maintain this important tradition as your Committee considers NIH appropriations for fiscal 2026.

The Senators, with their 26 to 3 vote on this matter, have spoken with clarity and conviction. The House is, of course, in no way bound by the decision in the Senate, but we write with an urgent plea on behalf of the vast majority of Pennsylvanians who support American leadership in medical technology, and the large segment of Pennsylvania's workforce dependent on that continued leadership for their livelihoods, to urge you to reach the same conclusion as did the Senators who considered this vital question of the NIH budget for the upcoming fiscal year.

Thanks for your consideration of this request.

Respectfully submitted,

University of Pennsylvania  
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia  
Pennsylvania Biotechnology Center  
University City Science Center  
The Wistar Institute  
Hepatitis B Foundation  
American Association of Cancer Research  
National Council on Severe Autism  
Autism Science Foundation  
SynGAP Research Fund  
Baruch S. Blumberg Institute