

May 9, 2011

Honorable Dennis Rehberg
Chairman
Subcommittee on Labor-HHS-Education
Committee on Appropriations
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Labor-HHS-Education
Committee on Appropriations
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Rehberg and Ranking Member DeLauro:

We respectfully request the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies to include funding at the level of \$100 million for the newly-enacted Cures Acceleration Network in Fiscal Year (FY) 2012.

The Cures Acceleration Network (CAN), enacted in 2010, is a vital new approach to moving high need medical cures through the development pipeline faster – giving hope to millions of patients and their families throughout the country.

The CAN Act will reduce time between scientific discovery and development of promising new drugs and therapies, a goal with broad bipartisan support and the endorsement of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). CAN coordinates efforts of drug development stakeholders – including patient advocacy organizations, the Food and Drug Administration, and agencies outside of NIH – expediting discoveries from the lab into the next generation of therapies.

But statutory language is needed to allow NIH to implement CAN, establish the CAN Board, analyze research needs, and begin the grant making process to ensure new drugs and therapies reach those who most need them. We therefore request statutory language to provide \$100 million shall be made available in FY2012 to implement section 402C of the Public Health Service Act, relating to the Cures Acceleration Network.

We are greatly encouraged by the demonstrated commitment to medical innovation and the acceleration of life-saving new treatments and therapies for millions of Americans living with disease. We urge you to affirm this commitment by appropriating \$100 million in funding to support implementation of the Cures Acceleration Network.

Sincerely,

Abigail Alliance for Better Access to Developmental Drugs
Alliance for Aging Research
Alpha-1 Association
Alpha-1 Foundation
ALS Therapy Development Institute
Alstrom Syndrome International
A- T Children's Project
Alzheimer's Association
American Music Therapy Association, Inc.
American Parkinson Disease Association
Americans for Cures
ARPKD/CHF Alliance
Association of Clinical Research Organizations

CADASIL Foundation
Californians for Cures
Celiac Disease Center at Columbia University
Coalition of Heritable Disorders of Connective Tissue
Colon Cancer Alliance
Congenital Adrenal hyperplasia Research, Education and Support Foundation
COPD Foundation
CURE: Citizens United for Research in Epilepsy
Cutaneous Lymphoma Foundation
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation
Detroit Medical Reserve Corps.
Easter Seals, Inc.
Foundation for Sarcoidosis Research
Genetic Alliance
Harlem United Community AIDS Center
HHT Foundation International
Huntingdon's Disease Society of America
Infectious Diseases Society of America
International Myeloma Foundation
Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation
Kakkis EveryLife Foundation
Leukemia and Lymphoma Society
Lung Cancer Alliance
Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research
Muscular Dystrophy Association
National Ataxia Foundation
National Coalition for Cancer Research (NCCR)
National Down Syndrome Society
National Gaucher Foundation
National Multiple Sclerosis Society
National Organization for Rare Disorders (NORD)
National Parkinson Foundation
National PKU Alliance
National Tay-Sachs & Allied Diseases Association, Inc. (NTSAD)
National Venture Capital Association
NBIA Disorders Association
Organic Acidemia Association
Osteogenesis Imperfecta Foundation
Oxalosis and Hyperoxaluria Foundation
Parent Project Muscular Dystrophy
Parkinson's Action Network
Parkinson's Alliance and Parkinson's Unity Walk
Parkinson's Disease Foundation
Partners for Krabbe Research
PKD Foundation
Project DOCC – Delivery of Chronic Care
PXE International
Research for Cures
Rett Syndrome Research Trust
Save Babies Through Screening Foundation
SRI International
The AIDS Institute

The ALS Association
The Legacy of Angels Foundation
The National Disease Research Interchange
The Progeria Research Foundation

May 9, 2011

Honorable Tom Harkin
Chairman
Subcommittee on Labor-HHS-Education
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Honorable Richard Shelby
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Labor-HHS-Education
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Harkin and Ranking Member Shelby:

We respectfully request the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies to include funding at the level of \$100 million for the newly-enacted Cures Acceleration Network in Fiscal Year (FY) 2012.

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