March 22, 2016

Representative Tom Cole
Chairman
Subcommittee on Labor, HHS, Education, and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Labor, HHS, Education, and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

Please accept this letter as a programmatic funding request of $47 million for the “Autism and Other Developmental Disorders” account within the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) for Fiscal Year 2017. This is the same level of funding as FY16.

As you know, this line-item is authorized by the Autism CARES Act and provides important grant funds to support research on reliable autism screening tools and early interventions. Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta and the Marcus Autism Institute, which serve thousands of families in and around my district, have taken great strides in recent years in developing cutting-edge early screening tools for autism so that families and health care professionals can intervene at an earlier age. The evidence-based early diagnosis and intervention that this line-item supports are the future of Autism Spectrum Disorder treatment.

If you have any questions or concerns about this request, please contact my Legislative Director, Janet Rossi, at janet.rossi@mail.house.gov or at 225-4272.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Rob Woodall
Member of Congress