

ROB WOODALL  
SEVENTH DISTRICT, GEORGIA

COMMITTEE ON RULES

COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION  
AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-1007

WASHINGTON, DC, OFFICE:

TEL: (202) 225-4272  
FAX: (202) 225-4696

DISTRICT OFFICE:

TEL: (770) 232-3005  
FAX: (770) 232-2909

ONLINE OFFICE:

[HTTP://WOODALL.HOUSE.GOV](http://WOODALL.HOUSE.GOV)

April 6, 2017

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Chairman  
House Appropriations Committee  
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human  
Services, Education and Related Agencies  
2358-B Rayburn Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
House Appropriations Committee  
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human  
Services, Education and Related Agencies  
2358-B Rayburn Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

Please accept this letter as programmatic and language requests for inclusion in the fiscal year 2018 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Act and/or its accompanying Committee Report.

1. Please provide a fiscal year 2018 funding increase for the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Additionally, I request that the Subcommittee prioritize funding within the NIH's budget for Cancer Moonshot, the BRAIN Initiative, and the Autism Centers of Excellence program. Funding increases for the NIH in recent years and the priority placed on cutting edge research and innovation through the 21st Century Cures Act were incredible steps forward in advancing scientific research and health care innovation. Any funding reductions at the NIH would be a setback for this important research and would harm Georgians who benefit from medical innovations.
2. Please provide \$47 million in fiscal year 2018 funding for Autism and Other Developmental Disorders, which has previously been funded through the Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA) Maternal and Child Health Programs. This funding will support research on reliable screening tools and interventions, promotion of early screening, an increase in the number of professionals able to accurately diagnose Autism Spectrum Disorder, and an increase in professionals able to provide evidenced-based interventions.
3. Please provide \$300 million in fiscal year 2018 funding for The Children's Hospitals Graduate Medical Education (CHGME) program. The CHGME program gives children access to healthcare professionals specifically trained to treat their unique medical needs. Bipartisan legislation passed in 2014 reauthorized the CHGME program through 2018 at a \$300 million authorized funding level.

PLEASE DIRECT ALL POSTAL CORRESPONDENCE TO:

1724 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-1007

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

4. Please include language in the fiscal year 2018 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Committee Report directing the NIH's National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) to prioritize research for sickle cell disease. While sickle cell disease is the most common inherited blood disorder in the United States, it has received only a fraction of the federal funding for research and treatment that other, less common blood diseases have received in previous years. I request that the Subcommittee consider including Report language similar to the following: *The Committee understands the burden sickle cell disease places on more than 100,000 Americans. Additionally, federal research spending on sickle cell disease has historically been eclipsed by other medical conditions that actually affect fewer Americans. The Committee encourages NHLBI to consider an increased focus on innovation in treatment of sickle cell disease and continued support for highly meritorious research on sickle cell disease.*

Thank you for your consideration of my requests. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact my Legislative Director, Janet Rossi, at [janet.rossi@mail.house.gov](mailto:janet.rossi@mail.house.gov) or (202) 225-4272.

Sincerely,



Rob Woodall  
Member of Congress