

The Rally for Medical Research Hill Day Message

3 major points for Rally Hill Day participants to convey:

- Thank Members of Congress for providing a \$2 billion increase for NIH in Fiscal Year (FY 2016), and for their continued efforts to explore innovative ways to increase the NIH budget.
- Urge Congress to continue the momentum of robust, sustained, and predictable funding by providing \$34.1 billion, *a \$2 billion increase*, for NIH in FY 2017, as proposed by Senator Blunt and Senator Murray, and approved in a bipartisan manner by the Senate Appropriations Committee.
- Ask Members of Congress to continue their bipartisan work to pass an FY 2017 omnibus spending bill that includes a funding increase for NIH before the end of the year. A long-term Continuing Resolution will create inefficiencies and add uncertainty to a system that is already under stress.

Supporting information:

- On July 14, the House Appropriations Committee approved an FY 2017 spending bill that included \$33.3 billion for NIH, a \$1.25 billion increase (3.9 percent).
- On June 9, the Senate Appropriations Committee approved an FY 2017 spending bill that included \$34.1 billion for NIH, a \$2 billion increase (6.6 percent) over current levels.
- The House Energy & Commerce, and Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committees continue to consider a path forward for a 21st Century Cures bill that would provide supplemental funding for NIH.