



October 28, 2016

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Dear Speaker Ryan and Leaders Pelosi, McConnell and Reid,


On behalf of Research!America, a 360-member public education and advocacy alliance spanning patients, universities, academic health centers, industry, independent research institutes, scientific societies and philanthropies, I am writing to urge you to fight for passage of bipartisan and bicameral “Cures” legislation before the end of the 114th Congress.

Through hard work and compromise over the course of several years, the House Energy and Commerce Committee and Senate HELP Committee have been able to forge broad-based bipartisan agreement on legislation focused squarely on conquering diseases that rob Americans and patients throughout the world of health, independence and time. By applying supplemental funding for NIH and FDA and pursuing efficiencies in the R&D pipeline, the Cures initiative will empower our nation to find safe and effective solutions to health threats more quickly, and deliver those solutions to patients more efficiently.

The Cures initiative does not solve every challenge facing patients and our health care system, but it does deploy American ingenuity, empathy and determination to save more lives. It would be tragic if we acquiesce to the status quo when better is within our reach.

Thank you for considering our views.

Sincerely,


Mary Woolley

cc: The Honorable Lamar Alexander, Patty Murray, Fred Upton, Frank Pallone, Diana DeGette