



A PATIENT-CENTERED FORUM OF NATIONAL ADVOCACY ORGANIZATIONS ADDRESSING PUBLIC POLICY ISSUES IN CANCER

May 9, 2006

Dear Representative:

The undersigned organizations representing cancer patients, providers, and researchers are writing to seek your support for efforts to add \$7 billion to the budget plan approved by the House Budget Committee. If the House fails to add these funds for critical health and education programs, Congress will be unable to provide adequate FY 2007 appropriations for cancer and other biomedical research programs.

As a result of the long-term Congressional commitment to fund biomedical research, we are beginning to reap impressive results from the nation's labs and research institutions. If funding for biomedical research is static or reduced, progress in basic, translational, and clinical research programs may be seriously hindered. For cancer patients, this may mean a slowdown in the development of new therapies, a result that is unacceptable.

We strongly urge that you support efforts to boost the budget resolution's allocation for health and education programs. Thank you for considering this request and for your ongoing support for cancer research.

Sincerely,

Cancer Leadership Council

American Cancer Society
American Psychosocial Oncology Society
American Society of Clinical Oncology
American Society for Therapeutic
Radiology & Oncology
Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network
C3: Colorectal Cancer Coalition
Cancer Care
Cancer Research and Prevention Foundation
The Children's Cause for Cancer Advocacy
Coalition of Cancer Cooperative Groups
Fertile Hope

International Myeloma Foundation
Kidney Cancer Association
Lance Armstrong Foundation
The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society
The Lung Cancer Alliance
Lymphoma Research Foundation
National Coalition for Cancer Survivorship
North American Brain Tumor Coalition
Pancreatic Cancer Action Network
Sarcoma Foundation of America
The Wellness Community
Y-ME National Breast Cancer Organization