



March 27, 2017

Albany Medical College

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College of Medicine

Columbia University
College of Physicians and
Surgeons

CUNY School of Medicine

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of Medicine at Hofstra
University

Icahn School of Medicine
at Mount Sinai

Jacobs School of Medicine
and Biomedical Sciences,
the University at Buffalo

New York Institute of
Technology College of
Osteopathic Medicine

New York Medical College

New York University
School of Medicine

School of Medicine and
Dentistry at the University
of Rochester Medical
Center

Stony Brook University
School of Medicine

SUNY Downstate
Medical Center

SUNY Upstate
Medical University

Touro College of
Osteopathic Medicine

Weill Cornell
Medicine

Dear Senator / Representative:

On behalf of the Associated Medical Schools of New York (AMSNY), which represents New York State's 16 public and private medical schools, we would like to express our grave concerns over President Donald J. Trump's Budget Blueprint. The President's budget for Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 proposed drastic cuts to federal budget, in particular to the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). These cuts would be devastating to the biomedical community in New York and we urge you to reject these proposals.

On March 16, 2017, President Trump released *America First: A Budget Blueprint to Make America Great Again* that proposes severe cuts to the federal infrastructure. Of particular concern to AMSNY are the reductions in funding to HHS. President Trump has suggested slashing \$12.6 billion, or 16.2%, from the overall HHS budget and would reduce funding to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) by \$5.8 billion, resulting in an 18% loss for that agency.

NIH funding is an essential element to New York State's health care and economic sectors. Because of its high concentration of world-class research institutions, New York ranks 3rd in the nation for Congressional Districts with NIH awards, and likewise ranks 3rd among states in total NIH funding awards.

Currently, NIH funding supports more than 31,000 jobs at 176 institutions throughout New York State. A study commissioned by AMSNY found that for every federal research dollar invested in New York State's medical schools, more than \$7.50 in economic activity is generated within the state. If enacted, these budget cuts would be devastating to the biomedical community and economy of New York. New York currently receives about \$2.2 billion in grant funding from NIH, almost 7% of total NIH funding. A reduction of the size proposed by President Trump would cut NIH funding to New York State by approximately \$400 million. Each \$1.0 million per year of NIH grant funding supports approximately 8-10 jobs, therefore NYS stands to lose between 3,200 to 4,000 well paying jobs if these budget cuts are enacted. In addition if we use the economic metric quoted above (\$1.00 invested = \$7.50 return) we are looking at a \$3 billion dollar negative economic impact to our state.

In addition to the loss of grant funding from NIH, AMSNY is extremely concerned that President Trump has proposed eliminating key health programs such as the Fogarty International Center, block granting the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and eliminating the Title VII and VIII grants for health professions training programs. These programs improve the health and safety of people in the United States and around the world, keep us safe and manage public health emergencies, and train health care professionals treating the most vulnerable citizens. In addition, the proposed budget moves the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) under the NIH, without a clear indication as to whether the total dollar amount for the NIH includes the resources needed to maintain AHRQ.

The President's budget cuts could stymie years of progress and hard work on behalf of scientists in New York. Just this past year, Congress passed the 21st Century Cures Act to increase the funding to NIH in recognition of its importance to the health and economy of the nation. The proposed cuts undermine the intent and efficacy of that legislation. We strongly urge you to reject these proposals when Congress drafts the FY 2018 budget and ensure that NIH is fully funded.

On behalf of all of your constituents – including scientists, physicians and patients – who support the groundbreaking and valuable work done by our research community, thank you for your consideration of this important issue.

Attachments:

- Cuts by Congressional Districts
- AMSNY 2018 Budget Blueprint

Cc: AMSNY Board of Trustees
Jo Wiederhorn

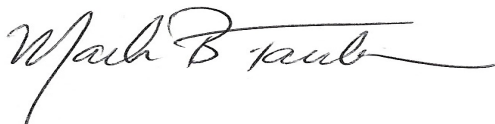
Sincerely,



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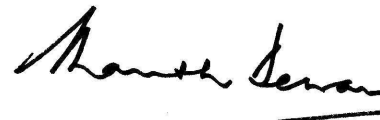
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President for Academic Affairs,
Mount Sinai Health System



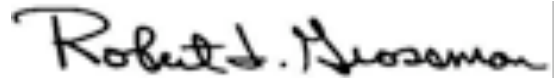
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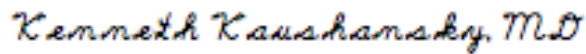
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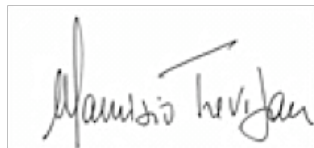
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