



July 26, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger  
 Chairwoman  
 Committee on Appropriations  
 US House of Representatives  
 Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Robert Aderholt  
 Chairman  
 Subcommittee on Labor, HHS, Education & Related Agencies  
 Committee on Appropriations  
 US House of Representatives  
 Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Chairman Aderholt:

Our organizations, which represent a broad representation of lung cancer patient organizations and are dedicated to seeing a world free of lung cancer, urge you to pull back the FY2024 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies Appropriations bill before it is considered by the full Appropriations Committee. In its current form, cancer research and public health investments would be gutted, harming people who have and are at risk for lung cancer.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH) play a critical role in addressing the burden of lung cancer, which will be adversely impacted if the funding levels in this bill become law. Investments in NIH and CDC have contributed to the increase in the lung cancer survival rate (52%) and the decrease in new lung cancer cases (17%) over the last 10 years. However, lung cancer remains the leading cancer killer in the U.S. Approximately 1 in 17 Americans will be diagnosed with lung cancer in their lifetime and close to a quarter of a million Americans will be diagnosed this year. Without adequate and sustained funding for research at NIH and public health funding at CDC, the burden of lung cancer will grow.

The NIH and CDC both play integral parts in the battle against lung cancer through prevention, risk reduction, early detection, surveillance and treatment. Lung cancer research is crucial and essential to saving lives. Risk reduction and lung cancer screening are key steps in ensuring as many people as possible are getting treatment and diagnosed at an early stage. Cutting CDC's funding by \$1.6 billion and

NIH's funding by nearly \$4 billion will jeopardize the progress that has been made to reduce the lives lost to lung cancer.

Please begin again on the fiscal year 2024 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies appropriations bill to ensure that it provides adequate funding and supports the urgent needs for people with a lung cancer diagnosis. Please prioritize much needed investments in lifesaving research and vital public health funding at NIH and CDC.

Sincerely,

American Lung Association  
Biomarker Collaborative  
BRAF Bombers  
CancerCare  
Caring Ambassadors Program, Inc.  
Dusty Joy Foundation (LiveLung)  
Exon 20 Group  
GO2 for Lung Cancer  
ICAN, International Cancer Advocacy Network  
Lung Cancer Foundation of America  
Lung Cancer Research Foundation  
LUNGeivity Foundation  
MET Crusaders  
Respiratory Health Association  
The PD-L1 Amplifeds  
The White Ribbon Project  
Upstage Lung Cancer