

September 20, 2023

The Honorable Tammy Baldwin  
Chair  
Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on  
Labor, Health and Human Services, Education,  
and Related Agencies  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on  
Labor, Health and Human Services, Education,  
and Related Agencies  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Robert Aderholt  
Chair  
Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on  
Labor, Health and Human Services, Education,  
and Related Agencies  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on  
Labor, Health and Human Services, Education,  
and Related Agencies  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair Baldwin, Ranking Member Capito, Chair Aderholt, and Ranking Member DeLauro,

The undersigned members of the brain health community are writing to respectfully request that the Committee provide robust funding for the Brain Research through Advancing Innovative Neurotechnologies (BRAIN) Initiative in Fiscal Year 2024. The steady commitment to investing in neuroscience in recent years is helping researchers make discoveries that fundamentally change and improve our understanding of how the human brain works and is opening the door to innovative technologies and treatments for brain-related diseases and disorders. Only through research will the causes, cures, and ultimately prevention of neurological and psychiatric disorders be found. **As such, we respectfully request that you provide at least \$680 million for the BRAIN Initiative, as included in the Senate's Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, for FY 2024.**

Despite tremendous progress, brain disorders and diseases impose a \$1.5 trillion annual cost to the nation's economy and one in three Americans will have a brain or nervous system disorder sometime in their life. However, the BRAIN Initiative is revolutionizing our understanding of the brain and offering hope for the millions of individuals impacted by brain diseases, disorders, and injuries. For example, the BRAIN Initiative supports transformative projects to create a detailed map of the human brain, diagram the microconnectivity of the brain, and provide the tools to access brain cell types with unprecedented specificity. Ultimately, the rapid advancement of brain science necessitates increased funding to maximize our exploration of the brain and advance our understanding and identification of cures and treatments. To continue and capitalize on these opportunities, we encourage you to further your support by again providing robust funding for the BRAIN Initiative.

We understand Congress faces a challenging budget climate for FY 2024. Passage of the Fiscal Responsibility Act means there will be cuts to discretionary spending over the next two years, which will

have a widespread impact on health and research programs. The BRAIN Initiative is our best opportunity to improve our understanding of the human brain and make progress towards treatments and cures for numerous diseases and disorders. Additionally, any funding cuts to the BRAIN Initiative will have a damaging effect on research taking place at institutions across the country. We implore you to prioritize these efforts and provide the highest possible level of funding for the BRAIN Initiative.

As representatives of the brain community and supporters of the BRAIN Initiative, we are enthusiastic about the discoveries that will be possible through your continued support of this innovative program. Thank you for your consideration of our request for at least \$680 million for the BRAIN Initiative in FY 2024. If you have questions or would like further information, please reach out to the American Brain Coalition's Executive Director Katie Sale at [ksale@americanbraincoalition.org](mailto:ksale@americanbraincoalition.org).

Sincerely,

American Brain Coalition  
Alliance for Aging Research  
Alliance for Headache Disorders Advocacy  
Alliance for Patient Access  
Alzheimer's Association  
Alzheimer's Impact Movement  
American Academy of Neurology  
American Brain Foundation  
American College of Neuropsychopharmacology  
American Epilepsy Society  
American Neurological Association  
American Society of Clinical Psychopharmacology  
American Society of Neuroradiology  
American Stroke Association  
Anxiety and Depression Association of America  
Association of University Professors of Neurology  
BDSRA Foundation  
Benign Essential Blepharospasm Research Foundation  
Brain Aneurysm Foundation  
CACNA1A Foundation  
Cerebral Palsy Research Network  
Cohen Veterans Bioscience  
Council on Social Work Education  
CSNK2A1 Foundation  
Cure CADASIL Association  
CURE Epilepsy  
CureSHANK  
Dementia Society of America  
Developmental and Epileptic Encephalopathic (DEE-P Connections)  
Dravet Syndrome Foundation  
Dup15q Alliance  
Eagles Autism Foundation  
Epilepsies Action Network

Epilepsy Alliance America  
Epilepsy Association  
Epilepsy Foundation  
FAM177A1 Research Fund  
FND Hope  
HD Reach  
Healthy Brains Global Initiative  
Huntington's Disease Society of America  
Hydrocephalus Association  
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai  
INADcure Foundation  
International Alliance for Pediatric Stroke  
International Bipolar Foundation  
International Essential Tremor Foundation  
International Foundation for CDKL5 Research  
International Neuroethics Society  
International SCN8A Alliance  
Koolen-de Vries Syndrome Foundation  
LEAD Coalition (Leaders Engaged on Alzheimer's Disease)  
Lennox-Gastaut Syndrome (LGS) Foundation  
Lundbeck Pharmaceuticals LLC  
Maternal Mental Health Leadership Alliance  
M-CM Network  
MdDS Foundation  
Medical Technology Enterprise Consortium (MTEC)  
MLD Foundation  
My Kool Brother  
National Alliance on Mental Illness  
National Aphasia Association  
National Association of State Head Injury Administrators  
National Ataxia Foundation  
National Headache Foundation  
National Multiple Sclerosis Society  
National Organization for Tardive Dyskinesia  
Neurocritical Care Society  
Neurotech Network  
NORSE Institute  
Northwest Noggin  
One Mind  
Patrick Risha CTE Awareness Foundation  
Pediatric Epilepsy Research Consortium  
Phelan-McDermid Syndrome Foundation  
Rare Epilepsy Network (REN) Coordinating Committee  
Rural Minds  
SMC1A Foundation  
Society for Neuroscience  
Spina Bifida Association  
STXBP1 Foundation

Syngap Research Fund  
SYNGAP1 Foundation  
The Bee Foundation for Brain Aneurysm Prevention  
The Brain Donor Project  
The Cute Syndrome Foundation  
The Headache & Migraine Policy Forum  
The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research  
The STARR Coalition  
The Sturge-Weber Foundation  
University of Nebraska Medical Center

cc:

The Honorable Patty Murray, Chair, U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations  
The Honorable Susan Collins, Vice Chair, U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations  
The Honorable Kay Granger, Chair, U.S. House Committee on Appropriations