

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

**Support the Congressionally-Directed Medical Research Program
(CDMRP) in FY2018 NDAA**

October 4, 2017

Dear Colleague,

We invite you to join us in sending the attached letter to the Chairmen and Ranking Members of the House and Senate Armed Services Committees expressing our strong support for the Congressionally-Directed Medical Research Program (CDMRP) at the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD).

CDMRP's highly innovative research portfolio drives scientific discovery in high-impact research areas not sponsored by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and other federal agencies. These include effective peer-reviewed research programs that are working to discover cures for several forms of cancer, including breast, lung, ovarian, and pancreatic cancers, as well as new treatments for neurological diseases, traumatic brain injury, and post-traumatic stress disorder.

In particular, our letter requests that any final National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) Conference Report legislation excludes four provisions in the Senate-passed FY2018 NDAA (Sections 733, 891, 892, and 893), which would bring the CDMRP to a halt – jeopardizing healthcare for warfighters, veterans, and their families both now and in the future.

Not one of these provisions was included in the House-passed FY2018 NDAA.

In an analysis of the four Senate provisions at issue, DoD stated:


This language would, in essence, eliminate military family and military retiree relevant medical research, inhibit military medical training programs, and impact future health care cost avoidance. Impacts will take place across all areas... [Researcher] would most likely not want to do business with the DoD... [These provisions] may create a chilling effect on potential awardees of DoD assistance agreements.

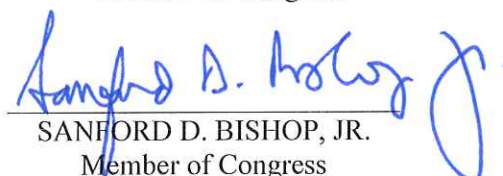
If you would like to sign onto the letter, please contact Elle Ciapciak (elle.ciapciak@mail.house.gov) in Rep. Costello's office, Deena Tauster (deena.tauster@mail.house.gov) in Rep. King's office, Maddie Bushnell (maddie.bushnell@mail.house.gov) in Rep. Loeb'sack's office, or Patrick Newbold (Patrick.Newbold@mail.house.gov) in Rep. Bishop's office.

Sincerely,


RYAN A. COSTELLO
Member of Congress


PETER T. KING
Member of Congress


DAVE LOEBSACK
Member of Congress


SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.
Member of Congress