

Congress of the United States  
Washington, DC 20515

March 27, 2007

**Support a 6.7% Increase in NIH Funding**

**THIS IS A PROGRAMMATIC REQUEST**  
**New Deadline: April 23, 2007**

Dear Colleague,

The National Institutes of Health are our country's premier institutions for medical research. They embody our greatest hope for treating or curing debilitating diseases like cancer, heart disease, diabetes and so many other illnesses that American families battle every day. We must invest in research today that will yield the cures of tomorrow.

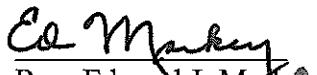
Unfortunately, since the doubling of medical research funding ended in 2003, funding for NIH has failed to keep pace with biomedical inflation. As a result, the NIH has lost more than 13% of its purchasing power.

Last year, Congress overwhelmingly supported legislation authorizing 8.7% annual increases in NIH funding for Fiscal Years 2007 and 2008 (P.L. 109-687). **While we would like to see the NIH funded to the full authorized level in Fiscal Year 2008, a 6.7% increase in NIH funding over the next three years would at least restore the funding lost to NIH since 2003 and preserve our investment in biomedical research.**


If we are to improve the health of Americans and improve the quality of their longer lives, Congress must make FY08 the beginning of an annual commitment by the Congress to provide adequate funding for health research.

For more information or to co-sign the attached bipartisan letter, please contact Katharine Reinhalter (Markey) [katharine.reinhalter@mail.house.gov](mailto:katharine.reinhalter@mail.house.gov) (225-2836) or Jason Edgar (Reichert) [Jason.edgar@mail.house.gov](mailto:Jason.edgar@mail.house.gov).

Sincerely,

  
Rep. Edward J. Markey

  
Rep. David G. Reichert

  
Rep. Henry A. Waxman

  
Rep. Christopher Shays

  
Rep. Janice Schakowsky

  
Rep. Christopher Smith