



November 29, 2016

Rep. Paul Ryan
Speaker of the House
H-232, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Nancy Pelosi
House Democratic Leader
H-204, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Sen. Mitch McConnell
Senate Majority Leader
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Sen. Harry Reid
Senate Democratic Leader
522 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Ryan, Leader Pelosi, Leader McConnell, and Leader Reid:

Friends of Cancer Research, an organization that drives collaboration among partners from every healthcare sector to power advances in science, policy, and regulation that speed life-saving treatments to patients, strongly supports the passage of the 21st Century Cures Act.

This bill is the result of months of deliberation, compromise, and a productive national debate about the priorities and opportunities to enhance biomedical research and development of safe and effective new products. The 21st Century Cures Act accomplishes this through key provisions that will positively impact patients across the country. These key provisions include:

- Providing critical funding for flagship medical research initiatives, such as the Vice President's National Cancer Moonshot, the President's Personalized Medicine Initiative, and the BRAIN Initiative at the National Institutes of Health.
- Allocating essential resources for the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to implement innovative new programs to protect and promote the health of all Americans.
- The establishment of the FDA Oncology Center of Excellence to streamline product development and review by ensuring cross-agency collaboration.
- Enacting new policies to improve the recruitment and retention of the highest quality employees to federal agencies.
- Putting patients at the center of drug development by operationalizing the incorporation of direct patient feedback into research.

We support the passage of this bill and look forward to working with you on its implementation.

Sincerely,

Ellen Sigal, Founder & Chair

Marlene Malek, Vice Chair & Co-Founder

Jeff Allen, President & CEO