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December 2, 2024

The Honorable Chuck Schumer  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mike Johnson  
Speaker  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries  
Minority Leader  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Majority Leader Schumer, Minority Leader McConnell, Speaker Johnson, and Minority Leader Jeffries:

The Society of General Internal Medicine (SGIM) urges Congress to pass the Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 appropriations bills—including the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies (Labor-HHS) appropriations bill—before the end of the lame duck session. SGIM includes more than 3,000 of the nation’s leading general internal medicine physicians, who are dedicated to achieving a system of care in which people in all parts of the country can achieve optimal health.

As a leading advocate for biomedical research and research that improves the quality of health care, SGIM recognizes that research granting agencies like the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) are precluded from awarding new research grants and withhold a portion of existing grants to ensure that final funding levels cover the awards when operating under a continuing resolution. These policies hamper scientific progress by stalling new research activities and administrative tasks, including hiring staff and recruiting study participants. That is why it is imperative that Congress passes FY 2025 Labor-HHS bill as soon as possible.

Therefore, SGIM urges Congress to appropriate \$48.851 billion and \$376.0 million for the NIH and AHRQ, respectively, as part of the final FY 2025 spending package. These are the funding levels included in the Senate Appropriations Committee-approved FY 2025 Labor-HHS bill and are in stark contrast with the House Labor-HHS subcommittee-approved legislation, which would cut the NIH by \$230 million and eliminate AHRQ. The Senate Labor-HHS bill funding levels demonstrate a deep commitment to fostering high-quality research, innovation, and evidence-based practices in health care, particularly in this challenging fiscal environment.



Thank you for your time and consideration. Should you require additional information, please contact Erika Miller at [emiller@dc-crd.com](mailto:emiller@dc-crd.com).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Bussey-Jones', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke at the end.

Jada Bussey-Jones, MD, FACP  
President, Society of General Internal Medicine

cc: The Honorable Patty Murray, Chair, Senate Appropriations Committee  
The Honorable Tom Cole, Chair, House Appropriations Committee  
The Honorable Susan Collins, Vice Chair, Senate Appropriations Committee  
The Honorable Rosa DeLauro, Ranking Member, House Appropriations Committee