



March 15, 2010

The Honorable David Obey
Chairman
Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor,
Health and Human Services, Education
and Related Agencies
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

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

Dear Chairman Obey and Ranking Member Tiahrt:

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) supports research to improve health care quality, reduce costs, advance patient safety, decrease medical errors, and broaden access to essential services—evidence that will support health care transformation. To advance this goal, The Friends of AHRQ endorses the President's FY 2011 budget request of \$611 million. This funding level will generate more and better evidence to help make a measurable difference in health care for all Americans.

With the President's budget request of \$611 million, AHRQ will continue its critical health care safety, quality, and efficiency initiatives; strengthen the infrastructure of the research field; reignite innovation and discovery; develop the next generation of scientific pioneers; and ultimately, help transform health and health care. The Friends of AHRQ thanks you for your ongoing support and looks forward to helping you further strengthen the agency.

The Friends of AHRQ is a coalition of health professional, research, consumer, and employer organizations dedicated to ensuring the agency's continued vital role in improving our nation's health. For more information on the Friends of AHRQ, contact David Helms with the Coalition for Health Services Research at 202.292.6700 or e-mail at david.helms@academyhealth.org.

Sincerely,

Academic Pediatric Association
Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine
Alliance for Aging Research
American Association for Clinical Chemistry
American Association for Dental Research

American Association for Respiratory Care
American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases
American Association of Colleges of Nursing
American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine
American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy
American Academy of Family Physicians
American Academy of Pediatrics
American Academy of Physician Assistants
American College of Cardiology
American College of Clinical Pharmacy
American College of Physicians
American College of Preventive Medicine
American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
American Dietetic Association
American Gastroenterological Association
American Heart Association
American Hospital Association
American Medical Association
American Organization of Nurse Executives
American Osteopathic Association
American Pediatric Society
American Psychiatric Association
American Psychological Association
American Public Health Association
American Society for Reproductive Medicine
American Society of Nephrology
American Statistical Association
American Thoracic Society
Arthritis Foundation
Association of American Medical Colleges
Association of Departments of Family Medicine
Association of Family Medicine Residency Directors
Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs
Association of Medical School Pediatric Department Chairs
Association of Professors of Medicine
Association of Program Directors in Internal Medicine
Association of Schools of Public Health
Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses (AWHONN)
Clerkship Directors in Internal Medicine
Coalition for Health Services Research
Marshfield Clinic
Medical Group Management Association
National Business Group on Health

National Health Council
National Osteoporosis Foundation
North American Primary Care Research Group
Research!America
RTI International
Society for Pediatric Research
Society for Medical Decision Making
Society for Women's Health Research (SWHR)
Society of General Internal Medicine
Society of Teachers of Family Medicine
Society of Hospital Medicine
The Consortium of Social Science Associations
The Joint Commission
Well Spouse Association