



**July 10, 2018**

The Honorable Rodney Frelinghuysen  
Chairman  
House Appropriations Committee  
H-305 Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Richard Shelby  
Chairman  
Senate Appropriations Committee  
S-128 Capitol  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Nita Lowey  
Ranking Member  
House Appropriations Committee  
1016 Longworth HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Patrick Leahy  
Ranking Member  
Senate Appropriations Committee  
S-128 Capitol  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Robert Aderholt  
Chairman  
House Appropriations Subcommittee on  
Agriculture, Rural Development,  
FDA, and Related Agencies  
2362A Rayburn HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable John Hoeven  
Chairman  
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on  
Agriculture, Rural Development,  
FDA, and Related Agencies  
S-128 Capitol  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Sanford Bishop  
Ranking Member  
House Appropriations Subcommittee on  
Agriculture, Rural Development,  
FDA, and Related Agencies  
1016 Longworth HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jeff Merkley  
Ranking Member  
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on  
Agriculture, Rural Development,  
FDA, and Related Agencies  
S-128 Capitol  
Washington, DC 20510

***Submitted via electronic mail***

Dear Chairmen Frelinghuysen, Shelby, Aderholt, and Hoeven, and Ranking Members Lowey, Leahy, Bishop, and Merkley:

The Alliance for a Stronger FDA thanks the House and Senate Appropriations Committees for their positive response to the FY 19 budget request for the Food and Drug Administration. Improving the resources of the FDA will have a meaningful impact on all Americans, both in FY 19 and the years to come.

The Alliance wants to ensure an FDA that is sized and modernized to meet its mandate in the 21st century. The FDA oversees products that represent 20% of consumer spending in the US and affect every American multiple times each day. Its responsibilities are global in scope and form the backbone of the world's economy. And it does all of that at a cost to each American of \$9.00 per year.

The FDA needs sufficient resources to meet its existing responsibilities, prepare for the wave of new science in medicine and food, combat the opioid epidemic and assure U.S. defensive ability against bioterrorism. Those who know the agency best—particularly regulatory professionals—are well-aware that it needs more resources to do its job properly. When the FDA is strong, America benefits.

It is the joint position of the co-signing organizations that the work done by FDA should be treated as a high priority, and that these efforts are deserving of the discretionary funding within your jurisdiction.

As you know, the Alliance for a Stronger FDA includes members from patient organizations, consumer groups and regulated industries. Some members might disagree on the specifics of how appropriations for the FDA should be spent, but we strongly agree that the FDA needs to have appropriations that enable the agency to do its job to protect the public health and ensure that the agency is working efficiently and effectively as it reviews products and implements regulatory policies.

In this appropriations cycle, House appropriators have recommended \$150 million more than the Senate. We support the higher levels of the House version, as well as the Senate's proposals for certain accounts--including critical funding for food safety that was not in the House bill and larger increases in monies for generic drugs and combating opioid abuse.

We respectfully urge you to provide robust funding that includes the higher funding levels that are proposed in the House and Senate bills and ensure that the FDA has the flexibility to use appropriations wisely. We also strongly believe that FDA needs the physical capacity to undertake its many important tasks, and therefore urge you to adopt the House level of funding provided for White Oak expansion.

We look forward to working with you as you complete the FY 2019 appropriations process and stand ready to provide any additional information you need in support of our requests.

Sincerely,

Members of the Alliance for a Stronger FDA and allied FDA stakeholders

Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy  
AdvaMed  
AIDS Treatment Activists Coalition  
AIDS Action Baltimore  
The AIDS Institute  
Alliance for Aging Research  
Alpha-1 Foundation  
American Bakers Association  
American Frozen Food Institute  
American Red Cross  
American Society for Pharmacology  
& Experimental Therapeutics  
American Society of Clinical Oncology  
American Society of Gene & Cell Therapy  
Association for Accessible Medicines  
American Society of Health-System  
Pharmacists  
Audentes Therapeutics  
Bavarian Nordic  
Biotechnology Innovation Organization  
Biotech Policy Group  
Catalyst Healthcare Consulting  
Celiac Disease Foundation  
Children's Cause for Cancer Advocacy  
Coalition for Health Funding  
Consumer Federation of America  
Consumer Healthcare Products Association  
Council for Responsible Nutrition  
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation  
EveryLife Foundation  
FasterCures  
Fight Colorectal Cancer

Friedreich's Ataxia Research Alliance  
Friends of Cancer Research  
Hemophilia Federation of America  
HPS group  
International Foundation for Alternative  
Research in AIDS  
International Myeloma Foundation  
Johnson & Johnson  
Leukemia & Lymphoma Society  
Lupus and Allied Diseases Association, Inc.  
Lupus Foundation of America  
Mars, Incorporated  
The Michael J. Fox Foundation for  
Parkinson's Research  
Muscular Dystrophy Association  
National Alliance on Mental Illness  
National Center for Health Research  
National Confectioners Association  
National Consumers League  
National Hemophilia Foundation  
National Kidney Foundation  
National Organization for Rare Disorders  
National Treasury Employees Union  
Personalized Medicine Coalition  
Perrigo Company PLC  
The Pew Charitable Trusts  
Plastics Industry Association  
Research!America  
Sugar Association  
TMJ Association  
U.S. Pharmacopeia