UpEndo Coalition

Advancing public policy to support endometriosis research and awareness

"Support FY22 NIH & DOD Endometriosis Research Funding" Email Template

Dear Senator/Representative,

On behalf of the millions of women and their families affected by the disease endometriosis each year, I urge your support for the inclusion important Report Language in the final FY22 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies (LHHS) appropriations bill.

Endometriosis is a painful gynecological condition that affects almost 1 in 10 women (200 million) across the globe and is the leading cause of female infertility in the US. Currently, there is no known exact cause of endometriosis, and there is no cure. I'm joining with the UpEndo Coalition to ask you to support more research funding that could lead to better health outcomes for millions of patients.

Thank you for your support for endometriosis funding and research in the FY21 Omnibus and COVID Relief and Response Act, which provided report language prioritizing National Institutes of Health (NIH) research while providing a historic $26 million for research, and prioritized Department of Defense (DOD) research of the disease. In FY22, we must continue to invest in this research to better understand and treat this debilitating disease.

Please ensure the final FY22 LHHS Appropriations Bill contains the same $26 million for research funding at NIH, includes endometriosis research report language as included in both the House and Senate LHHS bill report/explanatory text (below), and ensure that the DOD's Peer-Reviewed Medical Research Program is directed to continue research on endometriosis, as included in the Senate Appropriations Committee's LHHS Bill Explanatory Text.

House LHHS Appropriations Bill National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) Endometriosis Research Language: *"Endometriosis Research.—The Committee urges NICHD to expand funding for basic, clinical, and translational research into the mechanics of endometriosis, identify early diagnostic markets, and develop new treatment methods."*

Senate LHHS Appropriations Bill National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) Endometriosis Research Language: *"Endometriosis.—The Committee is aware that endometriosis is a chronic disease originating in the female reproductive system affecting 10*

percent of women of reproductive age worldwide. Endometriosis is often misdiagnosed as irritable bowel disease. Endometriosis has been linked to ovarian cancer. The Committee also recognizes that endometriosis is a leading cause of female infertility in the United States. The Committee encourages NIH to support more research to increase early and more accurate diagnostic rates and for education to inform healthcare providers and their patients regarding diagnosis and treatment of endometriosis."

Given the impact to millions of women's general and reproductive health, their families, and the US economy, additional research and education about endometriosis is vitally important. I again respectfully request your support for including funding for NIH research along with report language for the NIH and DOD prioritizing endometriosis in the final FY22 LHHS Appropriations Bill. Thank you for your time and consideration of this important issue.

Sincerely,

/name/