March 24, 2023

The Honorable Tammy Baldwin
Chair
Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Robert Aderholt
Chair
Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

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

Dear Chair Baldwin, Ranking Member Capito, Chair Aderholt, and Ranking Member DeLauro,

The undersigned members of the brain health community are grateful for the robust investment the Committee provided for the Brain Research Through Advancing Innovative Neurotechnologies (BRAIN) Initiative in Fiscal Year (FY) 2023. The steady commitment to investing in neuroscience in recent years is helping researchers make discoveries that fundamentally change and improve our understanding of how the human brain works and is opening the door to innovative technologies and treatments for brain-related diseases and disorders. Only through research will the causes, cures, and ultimately prevention of neurological and psychiatric disorders be found. As such, we respectfully request that you provide at least $740 million for the BRAIN Initiative in FY 2024.

Despite tremendous progress, brain disorders and diseases impose a $1.5 trillion annual cost to the nation’s economy and one in three Americans will have a brain or nervous system disorder sometime in their life. The BRAIN Initiative is revolutionizing our understanding of the brain and offering hope for the millions of individuals impacted by brain diseases, disorders, and injuries. For example, the BRAIN Initiative supports transformative projects to create a detailed map of the human brain, diagram the microconnectivity of the brain, and provide the tools to access brain cell types with unprecedented specificity. The pace of brain science is advancing rapidly, and increased funding is necessary to maximize our exploration of the brain and advance our understanding of the brain and identify cures and treatments. To continue and capitalize on these opportunities, we encourage you to further your support by again providing robust funding for the BRAIN Initiative.

As representatives of the brain community and supporters of the BRAIN Initiative, we are enthusiastic about the discoveries that will be possible through your continued support of this innovative program. Thank you for your consideration of our request for at least $740 million for the BRAIN Initiative in FY
2024. If you have questions or would like further information, please reach out to the American Brain Coalition’s Executive Director Katie Sale at ksale@americanbraincoalition.org.

Sincerely,

American Brain Coalition
Alliance for Aging Research
Alliance for Patient Access
Alzheimer’s Association
Alzheimer’s Impact Movement
American Academy of Neurology
American College of Neuropsychopharmacology
American Epilepsy Society
American Neurological Association
American Society of Clinical Psychopharmacology (ASCP)
American Stroke Association
Anxiety and Depression Association of America
Benign Essential Blepharospasm Research Foundation
Brain Aneurysm Foundation
Cerebral Palsy Research Network
Cohen Veterans Bioscience
COMBINEDBrain
CSNK2B Foundation
cureCADASIL
CureSHANK
Dementia Society of America
Dup15q Alliance
Dysphonia International
Epilepsy Alliance America
Epilepsy Foundation
FAM177A1 Research Fund
Focused Ultrasound Foundation
Glut1 Deficiency Foundation
Have Faith Studio
HD Reach
Hope for HIE
Hydrocephalus Association
INADcure Foundation
International Alliance for Pediatric Stroke
International Essential Tremor Foundation
International Foundation for CDKL5 Research
International Neuroethics Society
LEAD Coalition (Leaders Engaged on Alzheimer’s Disease)
Lennox-Gastaut Syndrome (LGS) Foundation
Lundbeck Pharmaceuticals LLC
M-CM Network
MdDS Foundation
Medical Technology Enterprise Consortium (MTEC)
National Alliance on Mental Illness
National Aphasia Association
National Association of State Head Injury Administrators
National Ataxia Foundation
National MS Society
National Organization for Tardive Dyskinesia
Neurocritical Care Society
Neurotech Network
Northwest Noggin
Pediatric Epilepsy Research Consortium
Phelan-McDermid Syndrome Foundation
SMC1A Foundation
Society for Neuroscience
SynGAP Research Fund
SYNGAP1 Foundation
The Brain Donor Project
The Headache & Migraine Policy Forum
The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research
The STARR Coalition
The Sturge-Weber Foundation
University of Nebraska Medical Center

cc:

The Honorable Patty Murray, Chair, U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations
The Honorable Susan Collins, Vice Chair, U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations
The Honorable Kay Granger, Chair, U.S. House Committee on Appropriations