



Getting Prepared for “One Step More” and “Email the Office Directly” Advocacy Actions

If your health allows you to be more active with your advocacy, take a moment to prepare for your “One Step More” and “Email the Office Directly” advocacy actions by reviewing the items below.

Be sure to note if your Senators have signed our appropriations request letters and are “**SUPPORTERS**” of these appropriations efforts. This will identify which messages to send on the action page.

SUPPORTERS of FY20 ME/CFS Appropriations Request Letters

Senator Angus King (ME)
Senator Catherine Cortez-Masto (NV)
Senator Chris Van Hollen (MD)
Senator Christopher Coons (DE)
Senator Cory Booker (NJ)
Senator Debbie Stabenow (MI)
Senator Dianne Feinstein (CA)
Senator Edward Markey (MA)
Senator Elizabeth Warren (MA)
Senator Gary Peters (MI)
Senator Jacky Rosen (NV)

Senator John Hoeven (ND)*
Senator Kamala Harris (CA)
Senator Kevin Cramer (ND)*
Senator Kirsten Gillibrand (NY)
Senator Kyrsten Sinema (AZ)
Senator Mazie Hirono (HI)
Senator Richard Blumenthal (CT)
Senator Ron Wyden (OR)
Senator Sherrod Brown (OH)

*Sent independent letters to the Senate Appropriations Committee. Everyone else signed group letter.

Key Facts #1: Labor, Health and Human Services and Education Subcommittee (Labor-HHS)

- 19 Senators requested a sustained increase in funding for ME/CFS programs at the CDC from \$5.4m to \$9.9m
- Increased ME/CFS funding for FY20 is directed for: a) National Epidemiological Study, a 3-4 year project, b) Medical Education Dissemination, c) ECHO (tele-mentoring program), d) Accelerating results of ongoing studies
- There has never been a nationwide epidemiological study of ME/CFS. This data will improve government response.



(Optional) Read the Senate Labor-HHS language here:

<https://www.meaction.net/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/fy20-labor-hhs-mecfs-appropriations-language-request-updated-3.20.19.pdf>

Key Facts #2: Defense Subcommittee

- 20 Senators requested to make ME/CFS an “eligible disease topic” for the Peer-Reviewed Medical Research Program
- ME/CFS was already in this program in FY 2011, but was removed in FY 2012
- Encourage the Senate to continue funding the Peer-Reviewed Medical Research Program

(Optional) Read the Defense language here:

<https://www.meaction.net/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/fy20-prmrp-language-proposed-1.pdf>