



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](mailto: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