



March 6, 2025

The Honorable Susan Collins
Chair, Senate Appropriations Committee
413 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patty Murray
Vice Chair, Senate Appropriations Committee
154 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chair, House Appropriations Committee
2207 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member, House Appropriations Committee
2413 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chair Collins, Vice Chair Murray, Chair Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

The Association for the Advancement of Blood and Biotherapies (AABB) respectfully requests that Congress ensure robust funding for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in the fiscal year (FY) 2025 appropriations bill. Additionally, we support the continuation of Section 224 of the FY24 Appropriations Act in the final FY 2025 appropriations bill since it prohibits changes to NIH Facilities & Administrative cost reimbursements.

Federal funding is essential for research that supports enhancing the safety and availability of blood products and biotherapies. These lifesaving therapies are critical to national security, and related research is key to military readiness, emergency medical care, pandemic preparedness and response, and bioterrorism preparedness and response.

NIH grants have enabled foundational research that supports these priorities. For example, NIH grants facilitated the development of methods to reduce or inactivate pathogens in blood products, which enhances blood safety and minimizes the risk of transfusion-transmitted infections. NIH-funded studies have led to improved understanding and mitigation strategies for complications that may occur in civilian and military patient populations, such as transfusion-related acute lung injury (TRALI) and transfusion-associated circulatory overload (TACO).

Additionally, NIH grants safeguard the nation's global leadership related to blood and biotherapies. For instance, they support research related to innovative blood products and substitutes, which aim to address shortages and improve transfusion outcomes. Additionally, NIH funding has led to the development of next-generation chimeric antigen receptor t-cell (CAR-T) and Tumor-Infiltrating Lymphocytes (TIL) technologies, which are novel treatments for hematologic malignancies and solid tumor cancers.

NIH funding is an important factor in medical innovation, economic growth, and job creation. According to the [NIH](#), every dollar invested by the NIH in 2023 resulted in about \$2.46 in economic activity. That same year, NIH funding directly supported over 400,000 jobs in the US. We urge you to protect NIH appropriations and to continue investing in medical research and innovation.

Sincerely,

Leah Mendelsohn Stone
Vice President, Public Policy and Advocacy
Association for the Advancement of Blood and Biotherapies

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AABB is a not-for-profit association representing institutions and individuals involved in transfusion medicine and biotherapies. The association is committed to “improving lives by making transfusion medicine and biotherapies safe, available and effective worldwide.” AABB works toward this vision by developing and delivering standards, accreditation, and educational programs that focus on optimizing patient and donor care and safety. AABB individual membership includes physicians, nurses, scientists, researchers, administrators, medical technologists, and other health care providers dedicated to blood safety.