

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

Support Prostate Cancer Research

Deadline to Sign: COB March 14th

Dear Colleague,

Please join us in supporting vital funding for prostate cancer research. This year, it is estimated that more than 180,000 men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer and over 26,000 men will die from the disease. Prostate cancer is the most frequently diagnosed non-skin cancer in the United States and the most commonly diagnosed cancer in men.

Specifically, we ask that you join us in writing the House Appropriations Committee's Defense Subcommittee in support of \$90 million for the Department of Defense Prostate Cancer Research Program (PCRP) in Fiscal Year 2017.


The PCRP, in existence since 1996, has produced some of the most cutting edge research on prostate cancer in the United States. Without sufficient funding, this innovative and vital program will be unable to conduct important clinical trials that will help to translate the program's important research into treatments for the disease. The \$90 million funding request reflects the House-passed level for Fiscal Year 2016, which was reduced to \$80 million in the final omnibus.

Federal funding for prostate cancer research has accounted for, on average, only 5 percent of our nation's annual cancer research budget even though it is responsible for about 26 percent of all cancer cases and about 9 percent of cancer deaths in men.

If you have any questions or would like to sign the letters, please have your staff contact Jamie Matese (Rep. King) at Jamie.Matese@mail.house.gov or 5-7896 or Michael Reed (Rep. Bishop) Michael.Reed@mail.house.gov or 5-3631.

Sincerely,


PETER T. KING
Member of Congress


SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR
Member of Congress

February X, 2016

The Honorable Rodney Frelinghuysen
Chairman
Subcommittee on Defense
Appropriations Committee
U.S House of Representatives
H-307, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Peter Visclosky
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Defense
Appropriations Committee
U.S House of Representatives
1016 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Frelinghuysen and Ranking Member Visclosky,

This year, more than 180,000 men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer and it is estimated that 26,120 men will die from this disease. As you consider the FY2017 Defense Appropriations bill, we respectfully request \$90 million for the Department of Defense (DOD) Peer-Reviewed Prostate Cancer Research Program (PCRP).

Since 1996, the Committee has been instrumental in advancing prostate cancer research by funding the DOD Congressionally Directed Medical Research Program for prostate cancer. The DOD has a long history of conducting medical research and has demonstrated an ability to be flexible and quickly adjust responses to changing needs and priorities. The PCRP is the gold standard in prostate cancer research and an integral warrior in the national fight against prostate cancer.

Federal funding for prostate cancer research has accounted for, on average, only 5 percent of our nation's annual cancer research budget even though it is responsible for about 26 percent of all cancer cases and about 9 percent of cancer deaths in men. The federal effort falls short of what is needed to save American lives.

We request a fiscal year 2017 appropriation of \$90 million (equal to the House-passed amount for FY2016) for the Peer-Reviewed Prostate Cancer Research Program at DOD. Among other initiatives, funding for the PCRP is used to:

1. Identify new prostate cancer specific biomarkers to radically improve early diagnosis of prostate cancer;
2. Fast forward discovery and development of new targeted medicines, vaccines and antibodies against the distinguishable types of prostate cancer;
3. Increase access of US men to innovative new experimental treatments through early-phase clinical trials;
4. Rapidly translate laboratory-based discoveries into near-term, transformative, improvements for all prostate cancer patients; and
5. Support resources that enable scientists to study the most dangerous types of prostate cancer.

Please join us in making prostate cancer research, awareness and early detection a national health care priority by ensuring that adequate resources are available for the DOD PCRP. We recognize the difficult task ahead of your subcommittee in setting priorities among the many needs of our nation, but we sincerely appreciate your attention to this request.

Sincerely,


PETER T. KING
Member of Congress


SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.
Member of Congress