

2/2/09

The Honorable Lamar Alexander (R-TN)
 United States Senate Committee on Appropriations
 455 Dirksen Senate Office Building
 Washington, DC 20510

RE: Dangers of pro-rata bio-medical research TARP distributions to NIH Institutes

Dear Senator Alexander,

We are respectfully urging that you disallow TARP NIH bio-medical research funds being distributed in a pro-rata manner to the NIH's Institutes.

HIV/AIDS now receives a full ten percent of the NIH funds (\$2.93 billion)ⁱ which presently results in grossly disproportionate allocations to non-AIDS illnesses as seen below.

Disease	2009 NIH Research \$\$	Deaths Per Disease	\$\$ Per Patient Death	\$\$ Per Patient
COPD *	90 Million	126,128 (i)	\$ 714	\$ 7
Hepatitis C	107 Million	12,000 (g)	\$ 8,916	\$ 20
Cardiovascular Dis.	2.3 Billion	871,500 (b)	\$ 2,714	\$ 29
Hepatitis B	42 Million	5,000 (h)	\$ 8,400	\$ 34
Diabetes	1 Billion	74,817 (c)	\$13,365	\$ 39
Parkinson's Dis.	186 Million	19,547 (f)	\$ 9,516	\$ 124
Alzheimer's Dis.	644 Million	71,696 (d)	\$ 8,928	\$ 124
Prostate Cancer	344 Million	27,050 (e)	\$ 12,717	\$ 181
HIV/AIDS	2.9 Billion	14,016 (a)	\$ 206,906	\$ 2,774

Similar small amounts are being allocated to thousands of other illnesses, including 6,000 rare illnesses that receive, on average, only \$200,000 per illness for biomedical research.ⁱⁱ

If, as rumored, \$10 billion more is allocated to the NIH, the NIAID would receive \$1 billion and most would likely be allocated to HIV with the above disparities increasing dramatically.

We are asking that you and your fellow committee members recognized the great success that has been achieved against HIV as stated by the Director of the NIAID, [Anthony Fauci, MD](#), when he stated on CNN, "...the scientific advancements that have been made in HIV [research] are breathtaking [with] highly effective drugs to suppress HIV to the point where what was a death sentence in the early eighties to now having patients who look and feel well, who are leading very productive, very gratifying lives...". We are including a CD with the 30-second video of Dr. Fauci making this comment that illustrates the laudable work he and all HIV researchers have achieved.

Please note the following facts that are most pertinent in this time of our country's and our government's financial crisis:

- The amount of funding on HIV disease by our government since the inception of HIV in our country is approaching \$300 billion dollars.ⁱⁱⁱ
- The 2009 HIV/AIDS budget request is already large at \$24.1 billion.^{iv}
- HIV/AIDS deaths have plummeted over 90 percent in many states including a 98 percent decline in newly-infected patient deaths in California from 9,764 to 229 (as of 8/31/08).^v
- \$48 billion has been budgeted this year for PEPFAR and global HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria and the majority of those funds will go to fighting HIV disease. Consider: the amount of NIH bio-medical research on every disease known to man is only \$29 billion.^{vi}
- The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation has spent approximately \$7 billion on global HIV efforts to date and is approaching \$1 billion in expenditures for HIV vaccine research,^{vii}
- Warren Buffet has pledged most of his wealth to the Gates Foundation and Buffet is supportive of Gates bias in favor of HIV/AIDS funding.^{viii} Numerous private individuals in Hollywood and elsewhere, such as Elizabeth Taylor and Sharon Stone, and major organizations like amfAR have raised billions of dollars for HIV programs for decades. In addition, the fund-raising proceeds of television shows like "Survivor," "The Apprentice" and "American Idol" have also resulted in hundreds of millions going to HIV disease efforts.

When our organization exhibits at large conventions and the attendees see our banner that displays the disproportionate funding shown in the table above, a new member joins FAIR, on average, every 2 minutes all day long while expressing great anger and disgust at the favoritism that continues to be afforded HIV disease in funding.

With legal vernacular, we pray that your committee cease any more funding for HIV/AIDS bio-medical research and that any such considered funds be reallocated from HIV to other illnesses that have not had the same success that Dr. Fauci has laudably achieved and describes so well on the CD.

Thank you for your consideration of this request and we extend our admiration of your efforts to reverse our country's financial crisis.

Sincerely yours,



and our 26-member Board of Directors listed below

Richard Darling, DDS, Past National Public Citizen of the Year
President & CEO, FAIR Foundation

Founder: The FAIR Foundation Liver Disease & Transplant Support Group

Author: Coma Life, an autobiographical memoir of life "within" coma and survival over hepatitis C, liver cancer, 3 liver transplants, heart attack, diabetes & muscular dystrophy

ⁱ <http://www.nih.gov/news/fundingresearchareas.htm>

ⁱⁱ <http://www.fairfoundation.org/factslinks.htm>

ⁱⁱⁱ Henry J. Kaiser Foundation reports \$150 billion HIV funding up to 2004. Every year thereafter the amount budgeted has been \$20+ billion including \$24.1 billion for 2009. In addition, one must note the \$48 billion PEPFAR funding, of which approx \$30 billion is for global AIDS.

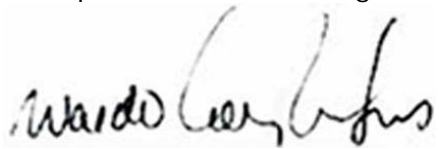
^{iv} <http://www.kff.org/hivaids/upload/7029-041.pdf>

^v <http://fairfoundation.org/quiz/quizanswer.htm>

^{vi} http://kaisernetwork.org/daily_reports/rep_index.cfm?DR_ID=53609

^{vii} http://fairfoundation.org/news_letter/2006/04sept/newsletter.htm

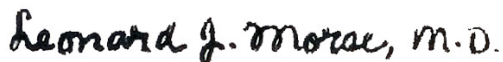
^{viii} http://fairfoundation.org/news_letter/2006/04sept/newsletter.htm



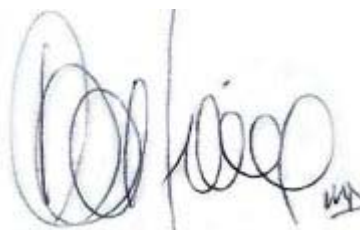
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Director, Transplant Ctr., Cleveland Clinic



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Member, Webster Univ. Arts and Sciences Advisory
Board and Regional Health Commission Award

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and Hepatitis C. ACLU Lifetime
Achievement Award; Houston's Gay
Male Hero Award-seven years in a row

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Past President, American Board of Prosthodontics
President, American College of Prosthodontists

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Transplant Pharmacist; Assist. Professor
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Founder, National Association of Hep. Task Forces
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Dave Courtney
Patient Advocate: Alpha-1-Antitrypsin lung/liver Dis.
Vice President: The Presumed Consent Foundation
President: Texas Panhandle Chapter, TRIO
Plainview, Texas

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Chaplain: Loma Linda Univ. and Adjunct
Assistant Professor, Faculty of Religion
Loma Linda, California

Sandy Rodgers, Patient Advocate
Parkinson's Disease and Stroke
Kapalua, Maui, Hawaii

Norman Kay
Patient Advocate, Prostate Disease
Lahaina, Maui, Hawaii

Jacqueline Marcell, Patient Advocate:
Alzheimer's disease, Caregivers, Elder Awareness
Author/Publisher: *Elder Rage* & Radio Host
Irving, California

Philip Rugo, Patient Advocate
Alcoholic Liver Disease
Past Director: Harrison House Substance
Abuse Clinic
Rehabilitation Center, Northampton, MA

Kress Darling, Patient Advocate
Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease
Palm Desert, California

Jim Ward, , Captain, SC, USNR (Ret.)
Patient Advocate: Cardiovascular Disease
San Diego, CA

Recordable • 52X • 700MB • 80min

Dr Anthony Fauci's Powerful
30 sec quote on CNN
From FAIR Foundation 760-2002766

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When you were in high school, if your father had slipped you \$29 in crisp dollar bills, you would've been elated. But what if he then turned to your sister and handed her \$2,774? Would you have shouted...

“That’s not fair!”

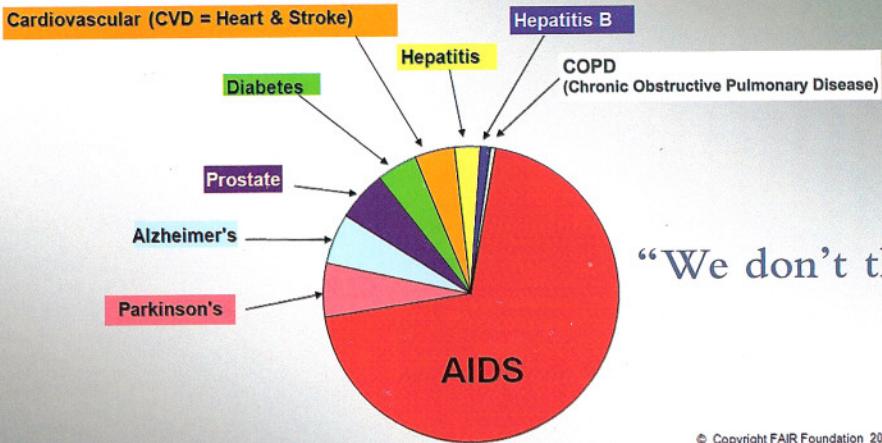
Without a doubt.

The FAIR
Fair Allocations In Research
FOUNDATION

“Is this fair?”



NIH Research Money Budgeted per Death



“We don't think so!”

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The Issue →

Cardiovascular disease kills 870,000 per year vs. 14,016 for AIDS
Cardiovascular disease: \$2,714 per death vs. \$206,906 for AIDS



A 501(c)(3) NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

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E-mail: fair@dc.rr.com

www.fairfoundation.org

Are these Fair Allocations In Research?

Disease	2009 NIH Research \$	Deaths Per Disease	\$ Per Patient Death	\$ Per Patient
COPD	90 Million	126,128	\$ 714	\$ 7
Hepatitis C	107 Million	12,000	\$ 8,916	\$ 20
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HIV/AIDS	2.9 Billion	14,016	\$ 206,906	\$ 2,774
All Cancers Total	5.5 Billion	559,650	\$ 9,888	\$ 3,830
Breast Cancer	716 Million	40,910	\$ 17,501	\$ 3,967
West Nile Virus	56 Million	124	\$ 451,613	\$ 15,427

6,000 orphan (rare) diseases receive, on average, only \$200,000 per illness.

Visit our website to view our 27-member Board of Directors of surgeons, medical directors, dentists, pharmacists and patient advocates.



THE TRUTH

Believe it or not, if you or a loved one suffer from cardiovascular disease (CVD) or any other disease except cancer, our government has handed you that \$29 dollars for bio-medical research or a similar small amount, while unfairly giving each of your sisters and brothers – a.k.a. patients suffering from AIDS – a whopping \$2,774.

The lion's share of the Federal research budget is spent on AIDS – a disease that is killing a fraction of Americans each year when compared with diseases like diabetes and Alzheimer's. Even the flu kills twice as many people as AIDS.

CVD kills 870,000 every year, which is 62 times more than AIDS. Diabetes kills more Americans than AIDS and breast cancer combined, yet the government is spending only \$39 on each diabetic compared to that \$2,774 on each HIV patient. The shocking truth is that CVD receives over 1/2 billion less than AIDS, and the increase in AIDS funding since 1999—just the increase— is greater than the entire budget for every other disease except cancer. Billions for AIDS also comes from pharmaceutical companies, the 50 states, celebrities and well-intentioned citizens like Bill Gates.

FAIR IS FAIR

The FAIR (Fair Allocations In Research) Foundation is dedicated to equitable research funds for all diseases, including the 16 that kill a million more Americans than AIDS annually. Our secondary factors insure diseases that cause great suffering with low mortality (6,000 rare illnesses) will also receive increased funding.

AIDS activists should be commended for reducing AIDS deaths 98 percent in California's newly infected patients and over 90% in many other States. But now it is time to start giving other diseases their fair share of research dollars so that they, too, can experience better health.

But the need for change isn't just about AIDS. The amount spent on research for the "Health Effects of Climate Change" is greater than the funding for brain cancer, Down Syndrome, cystic fibrosis, autism, cerebral palsy, cervical cancer, hepatitis B & C, multiple sclerosis, muscular dystrophy, uterine cancer and 6,000 other maladies. That's not fair either.

Choose today to join the thousands of FAIR Foundation members and supporters in all fifty states who are calling for change.

Cut along line

WE NEED YOUR HELP The FAIR Foundation is determined to increase research funding for your disease of interest. Please tear off this page and send your donation today. We thank you for your support!

YES, I WANT TO HELP! PLEASE ACCEPT MY DONATION OF \$ _____

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