

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Colleague:

We hope that you will join us in supporting additional funding for kidney cancer research by signing the attached letter to the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee. The letter requests that the Subcommittee provide \$15 million within the Congressional Directed Medical Research Program for kidney cancer research in the Fiscal Year 2012 Defense Appropriations bill.

In 2010, kidney cancer led to an estimated 13,040 deaths and 58,240 new diagnoses, making it the eighth most common cancer in the United States. Kidney cancer has the third highest incidence rate of cancers overall and is the fourth leading cancer in African American males and fifth for Hispanic males. The rate of people developing kidney cancer has been climbing for the last 65 years.

While there is only one FDA-approved drug for metastatic kidney cancer that has shown any durable response, targeted therapies have been developed in recent years. After showing some efficacy in kidney cancer patients, these drugs go on to be tested on other cancer. So, an investment in kidney cancer research can be beneficial for many other types of cancer. However, it is important to note that no therapy currently exists to prevent the recurrence of kidney cancer once a patient is in remission.

The National Cancer Institute estimates that approximately \$1.9 billion is spent in the United States each year on treatment of kidney cancer. We encourage you to support additional funding for kidney cancer research and join us in sending the attached letter. If you have any questions or would like to sign the letter, please have your staff contact Deena Tauster (Rep. King) at 5-7896 or Michael Grogan (Rep. McCarthy) at 5-5516.

Sincerely,



PETER T. KING  
Member of Congress



CAROLYN MCCARTHY  
Member of Congress

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

The Honorable C.W. Bill Young  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Defense  
Appropriations Committee  
U.S House of Representatives  
H-149, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

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

Dear Chairman Young and Ranking Member Dicks:

We respectfully request that you support funding for kidney cancer research and specifically ask that you provide \$15 million within the Congressionally Directed Medical Research Program for this purpose in the Fiscal Year 2012 Defense Appropriations bill.

In 2010, kidney cancer led to an estimated 13,040 deaths and 58,240 new diagnoses, making it the eighth most common cancer in the United States. Kidney cancer has the third highest incidence rate of cancers overall and is the fourth leading cancer in African American males and fifth for Hispanic males. The rate of people developing kidney cancer has been climbing for the last 65 years.

According to the National Cancer Institute, kidney cancer has increased by 13% over the 5-year period from 1998-2003, however over the same period, the rate of usage of VA facilities by veterans diagnosed with kidney cancer increased by over 26%, double the amount of the general population. Given this increase in the disease burden in the U.S. veteran population, we believe it is appropriate to have the Department of Defense provide research funding necessary to develop innovative treatment options to combat this deadly disease.

Mortality rates for kidney cancer patients are disturbingly high due to the absence of screening techniques to provide early diagnosis coupled with the limited treatments that are currently available. While there is currently only one FDA-approved drug for metastatic kidney cancer that has shown any durable response, and that for only 6% of patients, targeted therapies have been developed in recent years. After showing some efficacy in kidney cancer patients, these drugs go on to be tested on other cancer. So, an investment in kidney cancer research benefits many other types of cancer. However, unlike other forms of cancer, no therapy currently exists to prevent the recurrence of kidney cancer for patients in remission.

The National Cancer Institute estimates that approximately \$1.9 billion is spent in the United States each year on treatment of kidney cancer. It deserves dedicated research funding supported by the Department of Defense Appropriations bill. We thank you for

your consideration and look forward to the day when real hope will exist for the tens of thousands of Americans who suffer from this disease.



PETER T. KING  
Member of Congress

Sincerely,



CAROLYN MCCARTHY  
Member of Congress