



March 29, 2017

Dear Representative X:

I am writing to ask that you sign the Eshoo-Reichert-Lance-Kennedy Dear Colleague letter to the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense which urges the subcommittee to maintain pancreatic cancer as an area eligible for research funding through the Department of Defense's (DoD) Peer-Reviewed Cancer Research Program (PRCRP). Please note that the deadline to sign on to this letter has been extended to this Friday, March 31.

The PRCRP supports innovative, competitively-awarded cancer research that benefits both our military warfighters and veterans. Research shows that our military personnel and veterans face an increased risk for pancreatic cancer as a result of exposure to agents such as heavy metals, chlorinated hydrocarbons, DDT and other pesticides including Agent Orange.

The high-risk, high-reward scientific research grants funded through the PRCRP play an important role in the fight against pancreatic cancer. Pancreatic cancer has been included in the program since 2011, and the DoD has awarded 32 pancreatic cancer research grants for a total of \$12.2 million. Previous PRCRP funding for pancreatic cancer has helped to improve early detection, better understand its prognosis and improve the well-being of individuals facing a pancreatic cancer diagnosis.

Each year, Congress must expressly state which cancers are to be included in the PRCRP. Representatives Eshoo (D-CA), Reichert (R-WA), Lance (R-NJ) and Kennedy (D-MA) are collecting signatures on a Dear Colleague letter to the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense urging them to maintain pancreatic cancer as an area eligible for research funding through the PRCRP in FY 2018.

We would greatly appreciate your support for including pancreatic cancer in this critical program once again. Please contact Rachel Fybel in Rep. Eshoo's office (Rachel.Fybel@mail.house.gov) or Lindsay Manson in Rep. Reichert's office (Lindsay.Manson@mail.house.gov) to sign by this Friday, March 31.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Megan Gordon Don".

Megan Gordon Don
Vice President, Government Affairs & Advocacy



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