

**Support FY2022 DOD Peer Reviewed Breast Cancer Research Program (BCRP)  
Appropriations**

***\*\*This is a Programmatic Request that will require online submission. No financial disclosures are required.\*\****

**[Click Here to Sign On!](#)  
Deadline: COB April 9<sup>th</sup>**

Dear Colleague:

In 2021, it is estimated that 281,550 new cases of invasive breast cancer will be diagnosed among U.S. women, 2,650 new cases among U.S. men, and more than 44,000 individuals will die of the disease this year. In addition to invasive cancers, 49,290 new cases of in situ breast cancer will be diagnosed among women in the U.S. in 2021. Despite tremendous effort to combat this terrible disease, we still have significant work to do in learning how to prevent, treat, and cure breast cancer. While we do not have the answers, we know the worldwide research community is making progress and are confident that, with the right investments and structure, we can bring an end to breast cancer. The Department of Defense peer-reviewed Breast Cancer Research Program (DOD BCRP) is a critical tool in this effort.

Since its inception, the DOD BCRP has established itself as an innovative, competitive, and accountable medical research program. The groundbreaking science performed through the program is changing the face of biomedical research.

The DOD BCRP is innovative not only because of the unique research that is performed, but also because it is so efficient and flexible. Over 90% of the funds go directly to research grants, awarded only to the best projects through a competitive process. The program can quickly respond to current scientific advances and fill gaps by focusing on research that is traditionally underfunded. It is also responsive, not just to the scientific community, but also to the public. This is evidenced by the inclusion of consumer advocates at both the peer- and programmatic-review levels. The consumer perspective helps scientists understand how the research will affect the community and allows for funding decisions based on the concerns and needs of patients and the medical community.

In an analysis of the DOD BCRP, the Institute of Medicine (IOM) commends the program and states: “the program fills a unique niche among public and private funding sources for cancer research. It is not duplicative of other programs and is a promising vehicle for forging new ideas and scientific breakthroughs in the nation’s fight against breast cancer.”

Last year, 200 U.S. Representatives supported our bipartisan effort to increase funding for this worthy program. This year, we again ask that you sign the letter to the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee in support of robust funding for the Program for FY2022.

**The deadline to sign the letter is April 9, 2021.**

Please contact Cierra Pettiford ([Cierra.Pettiford@mail.house.gov](mailto:Cierra.Pettiford@mail.house.gov), Ext. 5-1313) in Congressman Hastings’ office or Kevin Gannon ([Kevin.Gannon@mail.house.gov](mailto:Kevin.Gannon@mail.house.gov), Ext. 5-7896) in Congressman Garbarino’s office with any questions.

Sincerely,

Alcee L. Hastings  
Member of Congress

James P. McGovern  
Member of Congress

Andrew R. Garbarino  
Member of Congress

Vern Buchanan  
Member of Congress