

In the Fight Against Cancer, *Survivors Must Remain a Priority*

*Support adequate funding in FY 2018 to address the unique
needs of cancer survivors*

March 20, 2017

Dear Colleague,


We invite you to join us in requesting the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies provide adequate FY 2018 funding to address the unique needs of cancer survivors.

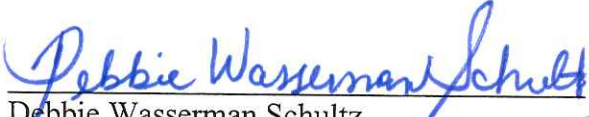
There are more than 15.5 million cancer survivors in the United States today. They can be found in every district, and many suffer emotional, physical and financial side effects of fighting the disease. If and when treatment ends, their cancer journey does not.

With great advancements in cancer research and screening, the community of cancer survivors has significantly increased. Yet programs and services to address their needs remain underfunded. Helping survivors return to a productive and healthy life after diagnosis and treatment is a critical component of our nation's commitment to fight the disease. Survivors must not be left behind.

Please join us in asking appropriators to provide adequate funding for programs and services to support cancer survivors. If you would like to sign on or you have any questions, please contact Robert Butora in Rep. Leonard Lance's office (robert.butora@mail.house.gov or ext. 5-5361) or Sarah Farhadian in Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz's office (sarah.farhadian@mail.house.gov or ext. 5-7931). **Deadline to sign is April 4.**

Sincerely,


Leonard Lance
Member of Congress


Debbie Wasserman Schultz
Member of Congress

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 20, 2017

The Honorable Rodney Frelinghuysen
Chairman
Appropriations Committee
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nita Lowey
Ranking Member
Appropriations Committee
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Labor, Health and Human Services
Education and Related Agencies
Appropriations Subcommittee
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Labor, Health and Human Services,
Education, and Related Agencies
Appropriations Subcommittee
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Frelinghuysen, Ranking Member Lowey, Chairman Cole, and Ranking Member DeLauro:

Significant advancements in early detection and treatment of many cancers have resulted in a rapidly growing community of those living with, through and beyond a diagnosis. Currently, there are more than 15.5 million cancer survivors in the United States and 20 million are expected by 2026. We urge you to address the unique needs of cancer survivors with adequate funding in the FY 2018 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies (LHHS) appropriations bill.

The number of people affected by cancer, including those diagnosed and their impacted loved ones, is staggering. Today, it seems impossible to find someone who has not been touched by the disease. All Americans are at risk of a cancer diagnosis; thankfully, there has been a remarkable reduction in associated deaths. Yet the toll taken by cancer and its treatment can be long-lasting. If and when treatment ends, the cancer journey does not.

Cancer survivors face numerous physical, psychological, social, spiritual, and financial issues throughout their diagnosis, treatment, and remaining years of their lives. Providing patient-centered resources to assist with myriad side effects from cancer, ensures a comprehensive and thorough national response to this epidemic. While there has been much Congressional focus on advancing treatments and cures, the growing population of survivors must not be neglected. In 2005, the Institute of Medicine called for reforms to better assist cancer survivors in its report, *From Cancer Patient to Cancer Survivor: Lost in Transition*. Many of the recommendations remain relevant today, more than 10 years after publication.

As cancer related funding for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services is reviewed, we encourage you to determine what more can be done to support cancer survivors. Whether through additional research and consensus on essential elements of survivorship care, leveraging federal

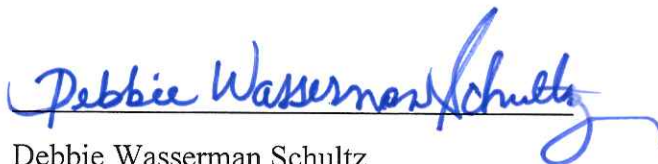
resources, or improving coordination among providers, much can be done to assist the millions of Americans affected by the disease. Evidence-based community programs that improve a cancer survivor's ability to be physically active, not only decrease likelihood of a future health complication, but also improve quality of life, cardiovascular endurance, and the ability to return to a productive life.

Despite the growing number of cancer survivors in the U.S. today, resources remain largely underfunded. For many, cancer has become a chronic condition, but that transition is not without consequence. We urge members of the House Appropriations Committee to ensure that adequate funding is provided to address the unique needs of this population. An investment in quality of life after a diagnosis is a critical component of our nation's fight against the disease.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Leonard Lance", written over a horizontal line.

Leonard Lance
Member of Congress

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Debbie Wasserman Schultz", written over a horizontal line.

Debbie Wasserman Schultz
Member of Congress