

October 4, 2018

The Honorable Gus Bilirakis
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Bilirakis:

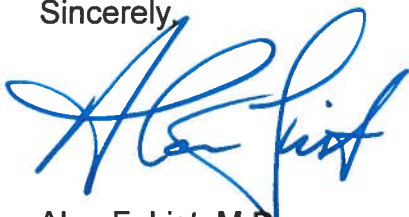
On behalf of Moffitt Cancer Center and all of the Florida families we serve, we write to express heartfelt gratitude for your support for federal investment in cancer research. We are greatly energized to hear of the passage of H.R. 6157, which includes FY 2019 funding for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and other agencies. As you are aware, the package provides a \$2 billion increase over the FY 2018 funding level and represents a 30 percent increase in the NIH budget over the past four years.

This is tremendous news for cancer patients, because it allows the researchers at Moffitt and other institutions throughout the U.S. to keep up the pace of discovery for more effective ways to battle cancer.

The opportunities before us for true breakthroughs in prevention, detection, and treatment of cancer are unprecedented. However, the potential to transform cancer from a death sentence into a cure or a manageable chronic disease can only be realized by support and investment from the NIH. For this reason, we are grateful to you and your colleagues in Congress for working together to make the fight against cancer a national priority.

Thank you for your support of federal investment in medical research and for all your very worthwhile efforts on behalf of the people of Florida and our nation.

Sincerely,



Alan F. List, M.D.
President & Chief Executive Officer
Moffitt Cancer Center



Thomas A. Sellers, Ph.D., MPH
Director, Cancer Center & Research Institute
Executive Vice President
Moffitt Cancer Center