

## August Recess 2017

### Advocate Talking Points

#### Medical Research Funding

- Funding for NIH and NCI, the largest funders of brain tumor research across the country, is essential for discovering new, effective therapies for brain tumors and other serious diseases.
- Last year's enactment of the 21st Century Cures legislation, which included a number of important policy solutions as well as funding for the Beau Biden Cancer Moonshot, was a significant step in the fight against brain tumors.
- Continued progress in the fight against brain tumors and all cancer requires sustained and meaningful increases for the NIH and NCI, in addition to full funding for the Cancer Moonshot.

#### **Request:**

- **Support an increase in FY 2018 Appropriations for the National Institutes of Health to \$36.2 billion and the National Cancer Institute to \$6 billion, and continued funding for the Cancer Moonshot and other NIH priorities as required by the 21st Century Cures Act.**
- **Appropriate \$60 million for the Peer Review Cancer Research Program of the Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs of the Department of Defense (DOD), and include adult and pediatric brain tumors as topics eligible for funding.**

## Childhood Cancer STAR Act

- Brain tumors are the leading cause of cancer-related death for children and adolescents ages 0-19, surpassing leukemia. Even for those who survive, they are often faced with late effects of their disease or treatment, including secondary cancers or organ damage.
- The Childhood Cancer STAR Act will help stimulate more effective pediatric cancer research, including pediatric brain tumor research, and lead to better treatments that extend life and improve patients' quality of life.
- In the 114<sup>th</sup> Congress, the STAR Act passed in the House, and the Senate promised to take swift action this 115<sup>th</sup> Congress.

### **Request:**

- **Please co-sponsor and support the swift passage of the Childhood Cancer Survivorship, Treatment, Access, and Research (STAR) Act of 2017 (S.292 Capito/Reed/Van Hollen/Isakson, H.R.820 McCaul/Speier/Kelly/Butterfield).**