



National Brain Tumor Society - Public Policy and Advocacy Update

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Join us at Head to the Hill 2019

As an advocate, you've seen first hand that together we can make leaps and bounds to influence the brain tumor research landscape. After great success in 2018, with the passage of the Childhood Cancer STAR Act and Congress' continued commitment to funding medical research, we have a lot to build on in 2019. Join other patients, survivors, caregivers, family, friends, medical professionals, and researchers for Head to the Hill 2019 and tell Congress that our community needs more: more research, more treatments, and more access to care. [Register now for Head to the Hill 2019.](#)

Tell Congress to Prioritize Brain Tumors

A new session of Congress has just begun, and you have a renewed opportunity to make fighting brain tumors a top priority for Congress in 2019. Now is the perfect time to introduce - or reintroduce - yourself to your members of Congress and ask for their commitment to our agenda.

Our 2019 Legislative Agenda supports the vision of our organization: to conquer and cure brain tumors - once and for all. To see our full 2019 Legislative Agenda, [click here.](#)

[Customize a message to your members of Congress](#) so they know why fighting brain tumors is important to you - their constituent - as they begin their work for the year.

Your voice is powerful. Our cause should become Congress' priority. Let's make it happen.

NCI Creates New Opportunity for Pediatric Cancer Research Through the STAR Act

The National Cancer Institute (NCI) just published a Request for Applications (RFA) for researchers to apply for a grant that was precipitated by the Childhood Cancer STAR Act - a law you successfully advocated for in 2018. National Brain Tumor Society is proud to be one of a handful of cancer organizations that convened to identify, coordinate, and prioritize the needs of the pediatric cancer population which led to the STAR Act.

Our team is now ensuring pediatric brain tumor researchers are educated about this opportunity to guarantee our community benefits from this new funding. [Click here](#) to see the full alert we have distributed to our research community.

Government Shutdown Update

We provided an update in December about how the government shutdown might affect the brain tumor community. The medical research we supported through our advocacy efforts was included in spending bills that were passed in September of 2018, and, thus, that funding has been secure. As such, the NIH and NCI were not impacted by the recent shutdown. We have been continuing to monitor the effects of the shutdown on the FDA, as funds for the agency were running low prior to the January 25 agreement that temporarily reopened the government. The full government, including the FDA, is currently being funded as part of a 3-week continuing resolution. We will continue to track this issue and provide pertinent updates to our advocates.