



National Brain Tumor Society Public Policy and Advocacy Update Vol. 8, No. 11

- **Thank You for Your Advocacy!**
- **Save the Date for Head to the Hill 2020!**
- **What's Next for PCHETA?**
- **Fiscal Year 2020 Appropriations Update**
- **Double Your Impact on Giving Tuesday**

Thank you for your advocacy!

As we reflected on all of the things we were thankful for during the month of November, our brain tumor advocates were at the top of the list! By taking the time to contact your members of Congress throughout the year, you are making a difference in the lives of brain tumor patients across the country, and supporting vital medical research. THANK YOU!

Save the Date for Head to the Hill 2020!

Please save the dates of May 3-5 for Head to the Hill 2020! Head to the Hill is our signature annual advocacy event that takes place over three days in Washington, DC. Don't miss the chance to join together with hundreds of brain tumor advocates, learn about the issues impacting the brain tumor community, and advocate with your members of Congress. Registration will open in early 2020, but mark the dates on your calendar now!

What's Next for PCHETA?

The [Palliative Care & Hospice Education and Training Act \(PCHETA\)](#) recently passed the United States House of Representatives, thanks to brain tumor advocates and advocates for serious illnesses across the country. We are one step closer to passage of the bill and improving the quality of life for brain tumor patients!

As you may remember, PCHETA would ensure that patients and providers understand the benefits of palliative care and that an adequate, appropriately trained workforce is available to provide the pain and symptom management, intensive communication, and level of care coordination required by patients facing a serious and complex illness.

The next step is to build support, and ultimately have the bill passed, in the United States Senate. [Take action now](#) and ask the Senate to follow the House's lead by passing the bill!

Fiscal Year 2020 Appropriations Update

In late November, the House and Senate once again passed a continuing resolution (CR) to extend last year's funding levels through December 20th. As Fiscal Year 2020 began on October 1st, it is concerning that Congress has not yet agreed on new spending levels, therefore keeping resources for brain tumor research stagnant.

We are hopeful that Congress can come to an agreement prior to December 20th that includes an increase for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and a proportional increase for the National Cancer Institute (NCI). However, if Congress doesn't act, we'll face a government shutdown and government funded research will be stalled.

Now is the time for Congress to pass a Fiscal Year 2020 funding package to end the uncertainty that scientists are facing and to invest in the medical research that could bring better treatments and a cure for brain tumors.

[Contact your members of Congress today and tell them why brain tumor research is important to you.](#)

Double Your Impact on Giving Tuesday

Tomorrow, December 3rd, is Giving Tuesday, and this year you have the chance to double your impact towards finding better treatments and a cure for brain tumors. It's been our community, including advocates like you, that has allowed NBTS to contribute significant advances to the field of brain tumor research and care over the past decade, and it's your continued support that will fuel an even more hopeful and productive future. [Read our latest blog post](#) on ways to support our mission on Giving Tuesday.

National Brain Tumor Society unrelentingly invests in, mobilizes, and unites our community to discover a cure, deliver effective treatments, and advocate for patients and care partners. Our vision is to conquer and cure brain tumors - once and for all.

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[55 Chapel Street, Suite 200, Newton, MA 02458](#)

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