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December Update: Sign Up for Texts + Congressional Update

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Get Ready for 2022: Sign Up for Texts From NBTS



With only a couple of weeks left in the year, we can begin to look forward to the legislative pushes that will need to happen in 2022. We know that Congress still must pass legislation to fund biomedical research, protect and expand access to telehealth, and provide financial relief for patients and their families.

Text “Brain Tumor” to 52886 to receive alerts from the National Brain Tumor Society that will make it easier than ever to take action to advance these and other priorities, and receive information on major events like Head to the Hill. Sign up today!

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Legislative Update: End-of-Year Action in Congress



As 2021 comes to a close, we wanted to update you about some of the key issues that are moving in Congress that you've advocated for this year, and share what we think may happen in 2022.

Government Funding

Government funding for cancer research is a key issue for our community because the federal government is the single largest funder of brain tumor research in the country. In September, Congress voted to pass a “continuing resolution” (CR) to preserve existing levels of funding through December 3, and then in early December they passed another CR to extend that funding to February 18, 2022. By then, Congress will have to agree to pass either new funding bills or another CR to keep the government open. While it is good that the government isn’t shutting down, we need Congress to do more. Legislators must increase funding for agencies like the National Institutes of Health to make up for lost time during the COVID-19 pandemic - not just keep that funding stagnant. We’ll keep you updated on the latest, but we hope Congress will act in the new year to once again increase funding for brain tumor research as they have for several consecutive years.

Telehealth

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) recently proposed extending increased access to telehealth through at least 2023, which is a victory for patients who have benefitted from being able to see their doctors from their own home during the pandemic. There are hopeful signs that this flexibility will be made permanent, as Representatives Diana DeGette and Fred Upton introduced new legislation called Cures 2.0 that would permanently remove many of the requirements that prevented patients from accessing telehealth before the pandemic. We are optimistic that Congress will act to guarantee that patients can use telehealth services in the way they have become accustomed over the last two years, and we will update you with opportunities to take action to help make that happen in the new year.

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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