

January 24, 2019

The Honorable Tammy Duckworth
524 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Duckworth,

On behalf of the undersigned organizations representing patients, providers, and researchers, we thank you for introducing a Resolution expressing support for the designation of a “Women’s Health Research Day.” We applaud the acknowledgment in the resolution of the January 2016 National Institutes of Health (NIH) policy to require investigators to consider sex as a critical biological variable in federally funded research. We agree that more needs to be done to include women in clinical trials and to investigate sex specific effects in research.

A significant component of rigor and completeness in research is the investigation of sex specific effects. Our organizations assert that careful consideration of sex differences in all phases of the research enterprise is necessary to improve the health of women and men, and also to maximize the return on taxpayers’ investment in biomedical research. We support the Resolution’s attention to the need to support efforts to recognize the importance of biomedical research to women’s health, increase awareness of the value of sex and gender-based biomedical research, and advocate for more inclusive research studies and greater participation in research efforts.

Our organizations sincerely appreciate your leadership in championing equity in biomedical research, and we are pleased to endorse the Resolution. We look forward to working with you in your efforts to support biomedical research and public health.

American Association of University Women
American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
American College of Preventive Medicine
American Heart Association
American Lung Association
American Society for Nutrition
American Society for Reproductive Medicine
American Society of Nephrology
American Society for Pharmacology & Experimental Therapeutics
Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum
Brem Foundation
Endocrine Society
Hadassah, The Women’s Zionist Organization of America, Inc
HealthyWomen
Jewish Women International
March of Dimes
National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women’s Health
National Council of Jewish Women
National Organization for Women

National Women's Health Network
National Women's Political Caucus
Open Medical Foundation
RESOLVE: The National Infertility Association
SCAD Alliance
Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine
Society for Reproductive Investigation
The Shane Foundation
WomenHeart: The National Coalition for Women with Heart Disease
Women Against Alzheimer's