



LEGISLATIVE AGENDA **118th Congress, 1st Session**

About the Sleep Advocacy Forum

The Sleep Advocacy Forum brings together national patient groups and professional societies representing the sleep, circadian, and sleep disorders community. We work together to raise awareness of recent progress, emerging opportunities, and unmet needs impacting medical research, treatment development, public health, and patient care for the community. We coalesce around areas of common interest and speak with a unified voice to educate policymakers and ensure progress is sustained for patients and families.

About Project Sleep

Project Sleep is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization raising awareness about sleep health and sleep disorders by working with affected individuals and families across the country. Believing in the value of sleep, Project Sleep aims to improve public health by educating individuals and policymakers about the importance of sleep health and sleep disorders. Project Sleep will educate and empower individuals using events, campaigns and programs to bring people together and talk about sleep as a pillar of health.

2023 Legislative and Policy Recommendations

Please work with your colleagues to introduce, advance, and pass, the *Sleep Health, Circadian, and Sleep Disorders, Surveillance, Awareness, Screening and Care Delivery Act*. Despite the ubiquitousness and impact of healthy sleep as a public health issue, HHS presently lacks a coordinated sleep program and corresponding resources. Currently, sleep is mainly addressed as a comorbidity of other conditions, and even these resources are sparse. We call on Congress to pass timely legislation establishing a sleep program at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and providing additional critical public health resources that can support surveillance, screening, professional education, and public awareness.

FY 2024 Funding Recommendations

-The sleep community joins the broader public health community in requesting at least \$9.2 billion in overall funding for CDC (consistent with the Senate proposal), to establish and reinvigorate meaningful professional education, public awareness, and surveillance activities. Please provide the new CDC *Chronic Disease Education and Awareness Program* with \$6 million, an increase of \$1.5 million over FY 2023, to facilitate additional cooperative agreement to advance timely public health efforts with community stakeholders.

-The sleep community joins the broader research community in requesting \$49.2 billion in discretionary funding for the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Sleep impacts nearly every system of the body and various disease processes, please provide proportional funding increases for all NIH Institutes and Centers to further support sleep, circadian, and sleep disorders research activities. Please support emerging and ongoing activities focused on addressing health disparities and promoting health equity.

-Please continue to include “sleep disorders and restriction” on the list of conditions deemed eligible for study annually through the Peer-Reviewed Medical Research Program.

-Please provide the VA Medical and Prosthetic Research Program with \$938 million (consistent with the Senate and House proposals) to enhance support for critical research projects.