

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

July 15, 2022

The Honorable Xavier Becerra  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Secretary Becerra,

As the Department of Health and Human Services launches the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H), we respectfully request that you consider the unique advantages the State of Maryland offers that will enable the new agency to achieve its goal of rapidly advancing biomedical research and innovation.

Maryland has long been home to world-class medical and research institutions, including federal agencies and universities such as Johns Hopkins University, the University of Maryland, College Park, the University of Maryland, Baltimore, and Morgan State University. This has fostered the development of the I-270 Technology Corridor, a cluster of dozens of life sciences companies already leading biomedical innovation. Additionally, the University of Maryland, Baltimore and Johns Hopkins University have each developed biotechnology parks to partner with a total of over 50 life sciences companies in the research and development of cutting-edge technologies.

ARPA-H would benefit from this robust existing infrastructure, both physical and human, which has allowed other federal agencies and installations headquartered in Maryland, such as the National Institutes of Health, National Cancer Institute, the Department of Energy, and Fort Detrick, to thrive. Maryland has a highly educated population with the highest number of employed doctoral scientists of any state.<sup>1</sup> This talented and diverse workforce with extensive experience working in the private-sector and with federal agencies will be essential in developing next-generation solutions that will benefit all Americans. Maryland's innovative ecosystem will serve to jumpstart the new agency's ability to make breakthroughs in cancer, diabetes, Alzheimer's, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, and other diseases.

As you select the location of ARPA-H, we urge you to consider Maryland and look forward to working with you to ensure the agency has the resources necessary to succeed.

Sincerely,




Benjamin L. Cardin  
United States Senator



Chris Van Hollen  
United States Senator

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<sup>1</sup> <https://commerce.maryland.gov/Documents/ResearchDocument/MarylandLifeSciencesIndustryFactSheet.pdf>



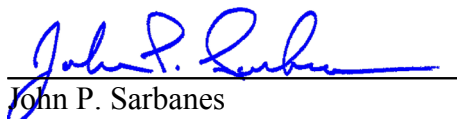
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Steny H. Hoyer  
Member of Congress



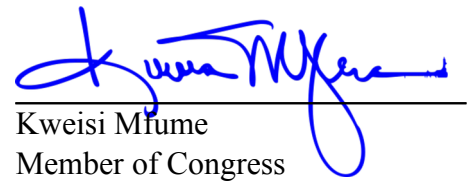
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C. A. Dutch Ruppersberger  
Member of Congress



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John P. Sarbanes  
Member of Congress



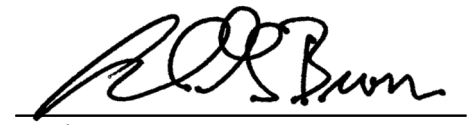
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Kweisi Mfume  
Member of Congress



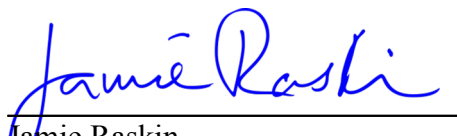
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Andy Harris, M.D.  
Member of Congress



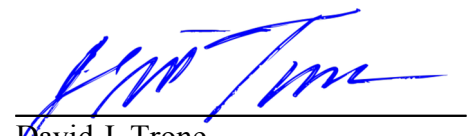
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Anthony G. Brown  
Member of Congress



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Jamie Raskin  
Member of Congress



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David J. Trone  
Member of Congress