

February 19, 2025

Meaningful Lives As We Age

Senator Angela Alsobrooks
B40E Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

RE: Statement on Cuts to Critical Research Funding at the National Institutes of Health

Dear Senator Alsobrooks,

On behalf of the [Gerontological Society of America \(GSA\)](http://www.geron.org), thank you for your service on the [United States Senate Special Committee on Aging](#). GSA enjoys our long-standing relationship with the Committee and its members and regularly supports its initiatives and priorities.

Thank you for recognizing the importance of the National Institutes of Health's (NIH) role as the "crown jewel" of global research organizations and highlighting the devastating impacts of [the proposed cuts in indirect costs at NIH](#), at the February 12th Senate Special Aging Committee hearing. [GSA recently issued a statement on the cuts](#), urging the NIH to rescind its announced plans for the sudden and immediate reduction in administrative and facilities expenses related to research grants that sustain innovative scientific studies at institutions nationwide. Like you and Dr. Verdin, we recognize that these cuts will impact individuals and institutions working to improve the health and well-being of us all as we age, including the research of GSA member scientists. They will eliminate the jobs of people who work to support these institutions and our members. Less scientific research ultimately means fewer preventive measures and treatment advances for patients, families, and communities.

GSA is the oldest and largest interdisciplinary organization devoted to research, education, and practice in the field of aging. GSA's principal mission — and that of our over 6,000 members — is to promote the study of aging and disseminate information to scientists, decision-makers, and the general public. Founded in 1945, GSA is the driving force behind advancing innovation in aging. GSA fosters interdisciplinary collaboration among behavioral and social scientists, physicians, nurses, biologists, psychologists, social workers, educators, economists, policy experts, and many other scholars and researchers in aging. We believe the intersection of research from diverse areas is the best way to foster ingenuity, achieve the greatest impact, and promote optimal experiences of aging. The multidisciplinary nature of the GSA membership is a valued strength, enabling us to provide a 360-degree perspective on the issues facing our population as we age.

GSA publishes the longest-running and most widely-cited [peer-reviewed journals](#) in its field. We are advancing major initiatives related to improving adult immunization rates, earlier detection of cognitive impairment, recognizing obesity as a chronic disease, improving oral, hearing, and vision health, framing our language to improve the public's understanding of aging, and understanding the impact of the longevity economy.

GSA wishes to be a resource to you and your staff in your role serving in the Senate. We would very much enjoy meeting with you and/or your staff in the coming weeks to discuss our work. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please contact Patricia D'Antonio, Vice President of Policy and Professional Affairs at pdantonio@geron.org or 202-587-5880, or Jordan Miles, Director of Policy at jmiles@geron.org or 202-587-5884.

We look forward to continuing to work with you on improving the health of all of us as we age.

Sincerely,



James C. Appleby, BSPharm, MPH, ScD (Hon)
Chief Executive Officer