



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

November 3, 2007

Dear Society for Neuroscience Members:

Welcome to "America's Finest City," San Diego. As co-chairman of the Congressional Biomedical Research Caucus, and a long time supporter of medical research, I commend the work of the Society for Neuroscience (SFN), particularly President David Van Essen, President-elect, Eve Marder and Executive Director Marty Saggese for advancing the knowledge of neuroscience and being effective advocates for National Institute Health (NIH) funding. For more than thirty-five years, SFN has been gathering the best and brightest neuroscientists together to advance the cause of saving lives and ending human suffering.

The American system of research and medicine is a model of skill and innovation that has sparked a new age of pioneers. This past century has seen remarkable achievements in science and medicine led by a biotechnology industry that has built and sustained a proud heritage of scientific exploration, discovery and advancement. At the heart of this effort is a collaboration of scientists, researchers and businesses who call San Diego, California their home.

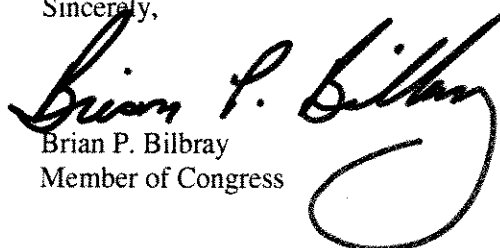
Known internationally as "Biotech Beach," our region's reputation as a biotech hub has attracted a number of world-class scientists, researchers and experts to "America's Finest City," sparking a race for discovery that has captivated the attention of the scientific and medical community. From the Torrey Pines Mesa to La Jolla's biotech beach our region is home to more than 500 companies whose researchers are working diligently towards the cures for many of our most serious conditions—such as Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease and cancer.

San Diego's renaissance as a hub for the biotech community demonstrates what can happen when science and medicine have the support of enterprise and investment. As we move forward, we must work to ensure that our commitment to advancement is matched with the resources needed to keep pace with the work of researchers and scientists worldwide.

All of you gathering here at this annual meeting are true testaments to a ground-breaking age of advancement and innovation. You are at the forefront of what will be an exciting and historical time. Your efforts and enterprise are adding quality years to our lives. Your work is to be admired, fostered and cherished.

I wish you the very best for a successful meeting. Again, welcome to San Diego.

Sincerely,

  
Brian P. Bilbray  
Member of Congress