Senator Van Hollen is committed to ensuring a robust, sustained, and predictable level of federal funding to support biomedical research. The valuable work done by scientists and researchers at our nation's leading institutions like the National Institutes of Health (NIH) not only leads to the development of tomorrow's medicines, but is also the main driver of growth for our biotechnology and drug industries. It enables our nation to attract and retain top research talent and accelerates the speed with which new grounds are broken to understand and hopefully one day cure complex neurological diseases like essential tremor. Senator Van Hollen knows we must continue this support to ensure that America remains a leader in scientific advances.

From his time in the House of Representatives, Senator Van Hollen has been a strong supporter and advocate for NIH. When he was the senior Democrat on the House Budget Committee, he authored budget proposals that increased funding to support biomedical research. As a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, he is doing everything he can to provide the NIH with the increase in funding it needs moving forward.

Additionally, the Senator introduced legislation in the House that would create a national neurological conditions surveillance system at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), which was signed into law in December of 2016. The data collected from this surveillance system has the potential to significantly accelerate neurologic research by allowing more informed analysis of genetic and environmental risk factors. It will provide a foundation for evaluating and understanding aspects of these conditions that we currently do not have a good grasp of, such as the geography and demographics of diagnoses, variances in gender, disease burden, and changes in health care practices

and utilization among patients. Senator Van Hollen is fighting hard to ensure that the CDC has adequate federal funding to implement vital initiatives such these to help our nation make medical advances.