



Dear ASHG Advocate,

We have a few new updates to give you on policy and advocacy-related activities and developments since the last monthly email.

**Upcoming ASHG Policy Luncheon, “One-in-a-Million”:** On Wednesday, October 15, please join ASHG at the Policy Luncheon held during the annual meeting in Houston. This year’s luncheon will explore how genetic research can propel change on the legislative level. A short documentary, titled “One-in-a-Million,” featuring a patient named Tyler at The University of Utah’s Penelope Program will be presented, followed by a panel discussion. For more information, visit ASHG’s [2019 Annual Meeting schedule](#). Tickets are \$15 for members and seating is limited.

**NIH Funding News:** Last week, the House Appropriations Committee, which allocates funding levels for NIH, approved a \$41.1 billion budget for NIH for Fiscal Year (FY) 2020. This is an [increase of \\$2 billion](#) over FY 2019. The Senate Appropriations Committee has yet to draft a spending bill. Thank you for advocating for this increase to your representatives in Congress through the [Advocacy Center](#). ASHG also submitted [written testimony](#) to both the House and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on Labor, Health, and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies to recommend a \$41.6 billion budget for NIH.

**Combating Sexual Harassment in Science Act of 2019:** ASHG has written letters of support to [House bill](#) sponsors Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson and Rep. Frank Lucas and [Senate bill](#) sponsor Sen. Kamala Harris. The two bills’ goal to prevent and address sexual harassment in research settings aligns with ASHG’s commitment in promoting a harassment-free workplace for geneticists and all our members. Earlier this year, [ASHG joined](#) the Societies Consortium on Sexual Harassment in STEMM.

Thank you for your advocacy!

ASHG Policy & Advocacy Team

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