



CANCER PREVENTION & RESEARCH
INSTITUTE OF TEXAS

August 3, 2022

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr.
The President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I write to add my voice to those endorsing your recent appointment of Dr. Monica Bertagnolli as the next Director of the National Cancer Institute.

Dr. Bertagnolli is an exceptional choice to direct the NCI. Throughout her career, Dr. Bertagnolli has personified the NCI's mission to improve the lives of cancer patients. Her background as an accomplished cancer surgeon and scientist, as well as her expertise in developing new cancer therapies, ensure that the NCI will continue its trajectory at the forefront of cancer innovation.

As you may know, the Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas is one of the world's largest public funders of cancer research, second only to NCI. Our twin missions -- to prevent cancer, detect and diagnose cancer early, accelerate the development of new treatments, and ensure that these treatments reach patients in all populations -- are linked in a fundamental way.

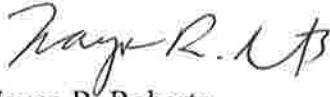
We are keenly interested in Dr. Bertagnolli's efforts to address cancer health equity and working to overcome barriers to the participation of diverse populations in clinical research. Her extraordinary commitment and ability to unite and inspire stakeholders to achieve a common goal of improving outcomes for cancer patients will be crucial to increasing access to care in rural areas. Texas, as one of the most diverse states in the nation with three of the largest cities, also has abundant rural areas with hard-to-reach populations. Texas is an excellent proving ground for initiatives that help address these challenges.

As you made clear in reigniting the Cancer Moonshot, government has a vital role to play in monumental challenges like the fight against cancer. Like the namesake effort that landed a man on the moon, the fight against cancer – and the fight to improve all health care – is going to take more than just states like Texas doing our part. It needs ground-breaking initiatives, such as the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H). Just as Texas has committed to leading the states in cancer innovation, we are ready for the opportunity to partner with you on hosting this national initiative for game changing innovations that will improve health outcomes.

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I commend you for your appointment of Dr. Bertagnolli and thank you for your unwavering support for the doctors, researchers, institutes, and national organizations that comprise the frontlines in the fight against cancer.

Sincerely,



Wayne R. Roberts
Chief Executive Officer

CC: Monica Bertagnolli