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Agenda Item No. 20
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June 2, 2025

San Diego County Board of Supervisors
County Administration Center
1600 Pacific Highway, Rm 335
San Diego, CA, 92101

RE: Support for Agenda Item 20 – Supporting San Diego’s Biomedical Sector and Continued Investment in the National Institutes of Health (NIH)

Dear Chair Lawson-Remer, and Members of the Board:

On behalf of the University of California San Diego, I am writing to express strong support for Agenda Item 20, which reinforces San Diego County’s commitment to our region’s biomedical sector and to sustained federal investment in the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

As one of the nation’s top public research institutions and a major recipient of NIH funding, UC San Diego sees firsthand the critical role NIH plays in driving medical discovery, expanding scientific knowledge, and training the next generation of researchers and clinicians. NIH support enables the breakthroughs that save lives, improves public health outcomes, and helps position San Diego as a global leader in biomedical innovation.

Proposals to drastically reduce NIH funding and cap federal investment in facilities and administrative costs pose serious risks to the future of biomedical research. These actions threaten to disrupt research continuity, force layoffs of skilled personnel, delay or cancel clinical trials, and undermine the economic foundation of a sector that contributes over \$57 billion annually to our regional economy. The potential consequences for patients, students, scientists, and the broader community are profound.

We commend the Board for bringing this resolution forward at such a critical time. UC San Diego supports the proposed County actions to formally express concern about recent federal developments impacting the NIH, to communicate the urgency of sustained biomedical investment to Congressional leaders, and to incorporate these priorities into the County’s 2025 legislative platform. These are thoughtful and necessary steps to ensure the continued vitality of San Diego’s biomedical sector and to protect the progress that NIH-funded research makes possible every day. Thank you for your leadership in standing up for science, health, and innovation in San Diego County.

Sincerely,



Vice Chancellor for Research and Innovation
Dr. Corinne Peek-Asa