



June 12, 2023

The Honorable Ben Cardin
U.S Senate
509 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Cardin,

The American Association for Dental, Oral, and Craniofacial Research (AADOOCR), the American Dental Association (ADA), the American Dental Education Association (ADEA), and the Friends of NIDCR formally request your assistance with the introduction of a resolution commemorating the 75th anniversary of the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR).

The Institute was established as the National Institute of Dental Research (NIDR) in 1948 by President Harry S. Truman in response to tooth decay so widespread and severe that it adversely affected the health and military readiness of the United States. In 1998, Congress changed the Institute's name to NIDCR to more accurately reflect its research base. Since its establishment, NIDCR has contributed to significant improvements in the oral health of America's children, adults, and communities through advancing fundamental knowledge about dental, oral, and craniofacial health and disease.

NIDCR is one of our nation's premier institutions widely recognized as the steward of our national oral health research enterprise. The institute supports scientists across the country at all stages of their careers and funds cutting-edge basic, translational, and clinical research to create the scientific foundation for oral health policy and practice. NIDCR shares research findings and health information with the public, healthcare professionals, researchers, and policymakers to promote oral health for all.

On behalf of our members and the broad coalition of advocacy organizations that represent patients with oral and craniofacial diseases and conditions, we ask you as one of the foremost champions in Congress for oral health, to lead this legislative effort recognizing NIDCR's decades of scientific accomplishment. Specifically, we seek the introduction of a congressional resolution in the U.S. Senate that commemorates the Institute's 75th anniversary and success fostering scientific advances.

We greatly appreciate your consideration of our request and look forward to working with you to increase public awareness of oral health care and emerging dental, oral and craniofacial research. If we can provide additional information or answer any questions, please contact AADOOCR's Director of Government Affairs, Yehuda Sugarman, at ysugarman@iadr.org.

Sincerely,

American Association for Dental, Oral, and Craniofacial Research
American Dental Association
American Dental Education Association
Friends of NIDCR