



Advancing public policy to support
endometriosis research and awareness

2022 Citizen Advocacy Congressional Day of Action Guide

Tuesday, May 17, 2022



Advancing public policy to support
endometriosis research and awareness

2022 Citizen Advocacy Congressional Day of Action Guide

Who: The UpEndo Coalition, Endometriosis Foundation, EndoFound Ambassadors

What: A day for the UpEndo Coalition's citizen advocates to join other EndFound Ambassadors and leaders to take action in support of raising awareness about endometriosis, and advocate for additional research

When: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 - throughout the day

Where: Virtual (Email, Phone Calls, Social Media)

Why: Endometriosis research is funded through a peer-reviewed award process at various federal agencies like the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the Department of Defense (DOD), but there is significant competition for those resources. In order to even be allowed to submit research applications, endometriosis must be listed as a priority research area in Congressional Appropriations Bills for those federal agencies.

Each year during the federal appropriations process, the Endometriosis Foundation has worked with key Members of Congress to help ensure that endometriosis receives priority consideration at those federal agencies when they are seeking research grant applications. Recently, we have been lucky to be able to work with the bipartisan Congressional Endometriosis Caucus which was originally formed by former Congresswoman Abby Finkenauer.

This year, the caucus is being co-chaired by Reps. Nikema Williams (D-GA) and Jennifer Gonzalez-Colon (R-PR). They have worked with other caucus members, including Reps. David Scott (D-GA) and Kathleen Rice (D-NY) to circulate a "Dear Colleague" letter in the US House encouraging other Members of Congress to join them in supporting endometriosis research. The UpEndo Coalition is also working to get the word out in the US Senate about the need to prioritize endometriosis research with Sen. Duckworth (D-IL) and Sen. Warren (D-MA).

In order to support the efforts of the Congressional Endometriosis Caucus, and support our champions in the US Senate, we are organizing a citizen advocacy "Congressional



Advancing public policy to support
endometriosis research and awareness

Day of Action” on May 17. Also taking place that day, Endometriosis Foundation Co-founder Padma Lakshmi and other celebrity advocates will be holding meetings with key Members of Congress and posting about their meetings on social media with the hashtag #UpEndo.

What Can You Do: We need your help in lifting up the voice of endometriosis across the country and helping spread awareness of this disease, its impacts, and the need for support for research and funding.

On the Congressional Day of Action, the UpEndo Coalition has developed messages that you can send to your Member of Congress either by email/letter or phone and developed sample posts for social media platforms.

On the Congressional Day of Action, you can:

1. Send a message or call your your US Senators (2) and US House Member asking them to support endometriosis research
2. Thank our champions on Capitol Hill for their support so far on social media along with the hashtag “#UpEndo”
3. Share your story on social media and the need to bring more awareness and resources to the issue along with the hashtag “#UpEndo”

Please see below for instructions on taking action, and the templates you can use, or edit, to fit your own unique story:



Advancing public policy to support
endometriosis research and awareness

CONGRESSIONAL DAY OF ACTION TEMPLATES AND INSTRUCTIONS

Email Templates & Instructions

Email Template Instructions

1. Look up your Member of Congress (Two Senators, and one House Member) - [here for US Senate](#), and [here for US House of Representatives](#)
2. Find their “contact me” pages
3. Email their offices using the templates below
4. Make sure and include your name and contact information so they can respond to your message

Email Templates

Support FY23 Endo Research Priorities at NIH, DOD, and VA Email Template

“Dear [Representative or Senator]

On behalf of the millions of women and their families affected by the disease endometriosis each year, I urge your support for the inclusion of important Report Language and funding in the FY23 Appropriations Bills.

Endometriosis is a painful gynecological condition that affects almost 1 in 10 women (200 million) across the globe and is the leading cause of female infertility in the US. Currently, there is no known exact cause of endometriosis, and there is no cure. I’m joining with the UpEndo Coalition to ask you to support more research funding that could lead to better health outcomes for millions of patients.

[Your Story]

Thank you for your support for endometriosis funding and research in the FY22 Consolidated Appropriations Act, which included report language prioritizing National Institutes of Health (NIH) and Department of Defense (DOD) research of the disease. In FY23, we must continue to invest in this research to better understand and treat this debilitating disease.



Advancing public policy to support
endometriosis research and awareness

I ask that you please join Reps. Williams (GA), Gonzalez-Colon (PR), Scott (GA), and Rice (NY) in the bipartisan Congressional Endometriosis Caucus, and in supporting endometriosis research report language for NIH, DOD, and the VA in the FY23 Appropriations Bills as noted below:

1. Labor, Health, and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act: Include report language directing the National Institute for Child and Human Development (NICHD) at the NIH to allocate at least \$30 million to continue to expand basic, clinical, and translational research into the mechanics of endometriosis, identify early diagnostic markets, and develop new treatment methods.
2. Department of Defense Appropriations Act: Include report language directing that endometriosis remain an eligible condition for research under the peer-reviewed medical research program (PRMPR).
3. Military Construction, Veterans' Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act: Include report language directing that endometriosis research be included as part of the VHA's medical and prosthetic research program (medical research)

Given the impact to millions of women's general and reproductive health, their families, and the US economy, additional research and education about endometriosis is vitally important. I again respectfully request your support including funding for NIH research along with report language for the NIH, DOD, and VA, and urge you to join the bipartisan Congressional Endometriosis Caucus co-chaired by Reps. Williams (D-GA) and Gonzalez-Colon (R-PR).

Thank you for your time and consideration of this important issue.

Sincerely [Your Name]"

Phone Call Template & Instructions

Phone Call Instructions

1. Look up your Members of Congress (Two Senators, and one House Member) - [here for US Senate](#), and [here for US House of Representatives](#)
2. Find their phone number for their DC Offices



Advancing public policy to support
endometriosis research and awareness

3. Call their offices using the script below and be prepared to either speak with a live person or leave a voicemail
4. Make sure and leave your name and contact information so they can respond to your message

Phone Call Script

“Hi, my name is [Your Name] and I’m calling from [Your State]. I want to ask the [Representative or Senator] to please ensure endometriosis research and funding is included in the FY23 Appropriations Bills.

Endometriosis is a painful condition that affects almost 1 in 10 women across the globe and is the leading cause of female infertility in the US. Currently, there is no known exact cause of endometriosis, and there is no cure.

[Personal Story]

I’m joining with the UpEndo Coalition to ask that the [Representative or Senator] support more research funding at the National Institutes of Health, Department of Defense, and Veterans Affairs Administration that would lead to better health outcomes for millions of patients.

I’d be happy to leave my contact information if the [Representative or Senator] could get back to me with their thoughts on this important issue.

Thank you.”

Social Media Templates

All posts should include the Hashtag “#UpEndo”

Request Support for FY23 Endometriosis funding & research priorities at NIH, DOD, and VA from LHHS Appropriations Subcommittee Leadership (Sen. Murray & Rep. DeLauro, Rep. Cole and Sen. Blunt)



Advancing public policy to support
endometriosis research and awareness

I'm joining @Endofound to urge leaders of LHHS Subcommittee @PattyMurray @rosadelauro @TomColeOK04 @RoyBlunt to support FY23 Endometriosis funding & research priorities at NIH, DOD & VA. We must #UpEndo by investing in research & awareness.

Request Support for FY23 Endometriosis funding & research priorities at NIH, DOD, and VA from US House & Senate Leadership (Rep Pelosi & Sen Schumer, Rep McCarthy & Sen McConnell)

I'm joining @Endofound to urge Democrat & Republican leaders in Congress @SpeakerPelosi @SenSchumer @GOPLeader @LeaderMcConnell to support FY23 Endometriosis research priorities including funding & research report language for the NIH, DOD & VA. We must #UpEndo through research.

Ask [Your [House Member](#) or [Senate Member](#)] to support FY23 Endometriosis funding & research priorities at NIH, DOD, and VA

I'm joining @Endofound to urge my [Senator or Congressperson] [INSERT @HANDLE] to support FY23 Endometriosis research priorities including funding & research report language for the NIH, DOD & VA. We must #UpEndo by investing in research & awareness.

Ask [Your [House Member](#) or [Senate Member](#)] to join the Congressional Endometriosis Caucus (or thank them if they're already a Member)

I'm joining @Endofound to urge my [INSERT Senator or Congressperson] [INSERT @handle] to join the Congressional Endometriosis Caucus and #UpEndo by supporting advocacy and awareness efforts.

If [already a member](#):

Thank you [INSERT @handle] for supporting endometriosis advocacy, awareness and research as a member of the Congressional Endometriosis Caucus. We must #UpEndo and continue to invest in this research to better understand and treat this debilitating disease.



Advancing public policy to support
endometriosis research and awareness

Thank Congressional Endometriosis Caucus Founders (Rep. Williams & Gonzalez-Colon)

Thank you @NikemaWilliams and @RepJenniffer for supporting endometriosis advocacy, awareness and funding efforts as co-chairs of the Congressional Endometriosis Caucus. We have to work together to #UpEndo and support the millions of women affected by this debilitating disease.

Thank House Appropriations “Dear Colleague” Champions (Rep. Scott, Rice, Williams, Colon)

Thank you to @RepDavidScott, @NikemaWilliams, @RepJenniffer and @RepKathleenRice for championing the Dear Colleague letter asking Congress to support FY23 Endometriosis research priorities including funding & research report language for the NIH, DOD & VA. We have to #UpEndo.

Thank Endo Awareness Month Resolution Champs (Rep. Scott, Colon & Sen. Duckworth)

Thanks to the Endometriosis Awareness Month Resolution champions @repdavidscott @RepJenniffer @SenDuckworth for your work to #UpEndo and raise awareness to support millions of women affected by this disease. With @EndoFound we can work together to secure more funding & research.

Tell Your Story (Different Ideas)

Retweet this [LINK] tweet by @EndoFound, which is pinned to our Twitter page, and share your personal story with the #UpEndo.

Tweet to be posted and pinned by @EndoFound:

Millions of women are affected by endometriosis each year. To spread awareness of this disease, its impacts, and the need for support for research & funding please join us to



Advancing public policy to support
endometriosis research and awareness

#UpEndo by retweeting this tweet and sharing your story as we host our Congressional Day of Action!

ADD GRAPHIC TO THIS TWEET