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The Honorable Tammy Duckworth U.S. Senate

524 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jan Schakowsky U.S. House of Representatives 2367 Rayburn HOB Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senator Duckworth and Representative Schakowsky,

The Society for Women's Health Research (SWHR®) is pleased to support the congressional resolution recognizing January 25 as Women's Health Research Day. We appreciate your work to introduce this resolution to raise awareness of the value of including sex and gender as variables in scientific research.

Being female or male can greatly influence susceptibility, prevalence, and age of onset of disease and conditions. SWHR, a nonprofit organization based in Washington, DC, is widely recognized as a national thought leader in promoting research on biological differences in disease. We view the policy that the National Institutes of Health (NIH) implemented on January 25, 2016 requiring investigators to consider sex as a biological variable in NIH-funded research as a promising development. SWHR applauds this resolution's recognition of that important event, and hopes Women's Health Research Day will create further awareness of the need to not only expand but also expedite the use of sex and gender as crucial biological variables in all scientific research.

Thank you for your leadership on this important issue to advance women's health.

Sincerely,

Amy M. Miller, PhD

President and Chief Executive Officer Society for Women's Health Research

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