

Open letter to Texas Lawmakers – to be distributed in early 2017 and posted on TexasCancerPartnership.org with full list of signers

Dear Texas Lawmakers,

We write to you as organizations from across the state with the shared goal of ending cancer as we know it. Cancer is a complex and devastating disease that still takes the lives of too many Texans, and it cannot be overcome alone.

While many of our organizations are harnessing our own collective resources against this great challenge, we recognize one of the most significant catalysts for progress against cancer is the decision Texas lawmakers and voters made in 2007 to invest \$3 billion in cancer research and prevention. Through the Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas (CPRIT), the state of Texas has become a global leader in the effort to eliminate cancer. Regretfully, cancer will not end in 2021. Nor should CPRIT.

That brings us to the purpose of this letter. We want to encourage you to support the ongoing work of CPRIT, and to help us chart a path for CPRIT once the initial \$3 billion is expended.

As a diverse group of organizations united in our desire to eliminate cancer as a major health problem, we have two requests: first, we urge you to support full funding for CPRIT for the next biennium at \$300 million each year; and second, we ask that you be part of an open-ended discussion about what CPRIT will look like when the initial commitment of funding is exhausted, acknowledging the likelihood that continued state funding will be necessary to sustain its valuable, life-saving work.

We believe CPRIT has and will continue to not only save lives now but will continue to advance our shared efforts to end cancer in the future.

We appreciate your consideration of these requests. We stand ready to provide information and work with you to maintain Texas' leadership in the fight against cancer.

Sincerely,

[List of organizational signers with contact names/titles]

[Click here to add your organization to the list of signers.](#)