

## **LEGISLATIVE AGENDA**

### **115<sup>th</sup> Congress, 2<sup>nd</sup> Session**

#### **About the Sleep Research Society**

The Sleep Research Society (SRS) was established in 1961 by a group of scientists who shared a common goal to foster scientific investigations on all aspects of sleep and sleep disorders. Since that time, SRS has grown into a professional society comprising over 1,300 researchers nationwide. From promising trainees to accomplished senior level investigators, sleep research has expanded into areas such as psychology, neuroanatomy, pharmacology, cardiology, immunology, metabolism, genomics, and healthy living. SRS recognizes the importance of educating the public about the connection between sleep and health outcomes. SRS promotes training and education in sleep research, public awareness, and evidence-based policy, in addition to hosting forums for the exchange of scientific knowledge pertaining to sleep and circadian rhythms.

#### **Legislative Priorities**

- Provide the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) with at least \$7.9 billion for FY 2019 and facilitate dedicated support the National Healthy Sleep Awareness Program (NHSAP). For the past five years, CDC has supported the NHSAP, which has been highly successful in advancing surveillance, public health, and awareness activities related to healthy sleep and various sleep disorders. While CDC would like to continue this successful, collaborative effort, it is unable to do so without dedicated appropriations from Congress, and legislators should respond with appropriate funding.
- Provide the National Institutes of Health (NIH) with at least \$38.4 billion for FY 2019. Recent years have seen a notable investment in sleep and circadian research at NIH, which has led to scientific breakthroughs and even the 2017 Nobel Prize in Medicine and Physiology. However, research into specific sleep disorders, such as narcolepsy obstructive sleep apnea, and restless legs syndrome remains modest and requires additional resources.
- Continue to include “sleep disorders” on the list of conditions deemed eligible for study through the Department of Defense Peer-Reviewed Medical Research Program (PRMRP) for FY 2019. Annual participation in the PRMRP has led to notable advancements, particularly in the areas of fatigue, combat readiness, and stress and psychiatric issues, and this important work must continue moving forward.
- Provide the VA Medical and Prosthetic Research Program with a meaningful funding increase for FY 2019. The VA has become a leader in sleep research, particularly as it relates to conditions that impact our veterans, such as PTSD, and additional funding would be timely and appropriate.
- Please cosponsor legislation requiring the Secretary of Transportation to publish a final rule that advances screening, testing, and treatment of obstructive sleep apnea for individuals operating commercial vehicles (S. 1883/H.R. 3882). This important legislation is led in the Senate by Senator Cory Booker and in the House by Congressman Bill Pascrell.