

# The CFIDS Association of America

*Working to make CFS widely understood, diagnosable, curable and preventable*

## Fiscal Year 2009 Appropriations Senate Report Language for the Bill on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies

### **Centers for Disease Control & Prevention**

(P. 71-72)

The Committee has included funding to continue the chronic fatigue syndrome activities at no less than last year. The Committee is deeply concerned by reports that 80-90 percent of CFS patients have not been correctly diagnosed and are not receiving proper medical care for their illness. Despite years of research, the cause of CFS is still unknown. Recent research suggests a much higher level prevalence of the disease than previously understood. For those reasons, the Committee strongly supports a robust CFS research program, but is concerned by the diminished number of research findings being published by the CDC on this subject. The Committee directs the CDC to conduct a peer review of the CFS program including a program performance evaluation by November 1, 2008 and report the result of such review to the Committee no later than February 1, 2009. In addition, the Committee directs the CDC to include in its annual budget justification an itemized expenditure of funds for each CFS research project or activity in the following five functional expense categories: surveillance and epidemiology; clinical assessment and evaluation; objective diagnosis and pathophysiology; treatment and intervention; and education, including the CFS marketing campaign and health care provider education.

### **National Institutes of Health**

(P. 130)

*Office of Research on Women's Health [ORWH]*

*Chronic Fatigue Syndrome [CFS].*—The Committee urges the ORWH to convene the annual meeting of investigators funded under the fiscal year 2007 CFS neuroimmune research initiative to stimulate new research initiatives and build multicenter collaborations. The Committee again urges the NIH to establish an intramural CFS research program with relevant areas of scientific expertise to study disease pathophysiology, identify biomarkers, objective diagnostic tools and better therapeutic approaches. The Committee also continues to expect that the disease and research category reporting system being developed by the NIH will yield more accurate data on CFS funding. Finally, the Committee urges the NIH to ensure that study sections responsible for reviewing grants on CFS include experts who are qualified in the appropriate disciplines.