1. The Epilepsy Foundation understands the financial constraints of our nation, but also encourages Congress not to abandon funding for critical epilepsy public health programs at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Current national programs are important to ensuring the safety and health of people with epilepsy: We support funding for the CDC Epilepsy program at $13.3 million.

2. We support $160 million in funding for epilepsy research at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and $32 billion in overall funding for NIH. The Epilepsy Foundation urges Congress to not abandon research initiatives that have been partially funded at the NIH, and to support funding for a cure and better treatments for epilepsy. Each year the government spends $30 billion on medical research at the NIH. Yet just ½ of 1% is spent on epilepsy. Funding is needed to make progress against epilepsy and improve health outcomes. We are encouraged by the following initiatives at National Institute Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS), and would urge Congress not to back track on these epilepsy investments:

   - **NINDS Centers without Walls** (program promotes a virtual opportunity for collaborative research)
   - **EUREKA** (Exceptional, Unconventional Research Enabling Knowledge Acceleration) Grants (grants to support highly innovative and novel approaches in epilepsy research)
   - **BRAIN** (Brain Research through Advancing Innovative Neurotechnologies) Initiative. The initiative calls upon the private and scientific communities to form partnerships to advance research on mapping the human brain. We support BRAIN and the promise it holds for the epilepsy community.
   - **Interagency Collaborative to Advance Research in Epilepsy** (iCARE) led by NINDS, to coordinate the research efforts of Federal agencies and voluntary organizations and to identify areas for collaboration.
   - **New Anticonvulsant Screening Program** (ASP) for developing new compounds to better address the needs of the patients for whom current therapies are not effective and to focus on prevention and disease modification.

3. We support Modernizing Our Drug and Diagnostics Evaluation and Regulatory Network Act (MODDERN Cures H.R. 3116 113th Congress); and we encourage Senators to support the introduction of identical legislation in the Senate. The MODDERN Cures Act would accelerate the search for treatment options by removing barriers that limit medical innovation and by encouraging the development of new treatments and diagnostic tools that can improve, prolong and, ultimately, save lives. The Epilepsy Foundation supports the MODDERN Cures Act as a pathway for hope, especially for those living with uncontrolled seizures.

4. **Ending the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) delay for New Treatment Approvals:** The Epilepsy Foundation calls on Congress to provide a transparent review process with a clear timeline that brings hope and certainty to those living with epilepsy, especially those currently living with uncontrolled seizures, while preserving safety and improving access to Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved therapies. We urge Congress to modify the Controlled Substances Act to require that new molecular entities for which FDA recommends scheduling are, upon approval, placed into the schedule as recommended by FDA so that patients can access therapies that have received FDA approval in a timely manner.