

## LE&RN applauds U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY) for taking lead on \$70M lymphatic research funding request

Lymphatic Education & Research Network (LE&RN) funding request gains Senate advocate

NEW YORK, NY, USA, February 27, 2017 /EINPresswire.com/ -- United States Senator Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY) has become the lead sponsor of a request to include \$70 million in lymphatic and lymphedema research funding for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in the Fiscal Year 2018 Senate funding bill. The funding will support interdisciplinary research relevant to the lymphatic system in health and disease. Lymphatic diseases and lymphedema affect an estimated ten million Americans and over 150 million worldwide.

This research funding request was first spearheaded in 2016 by the Lymphatic Education & Research Network (LE&RN), an international organization based in New York and dedicated to fighting lymphedema and lymphatic diseases. During the FY2017 budget process, now Senate Minority Leader Sen. Charles Schumer (D-NY) was the first in the Senate to take on the lead sponsor role championing this research. LE&RN applauds Senator Gillibrand's dedication to this important funding and her enthusiasm in continuing the progress being made in the Senate.



U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY) takes lead on \$70M lymphatic research funding request.

"In 2016, the US Senate made history when the chamber unanimously established March 6 as World Lymphedema Day," said William Repicci, LE&RN's Executive Director. "This funding request

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If passed, the funding would be an unprecedented achievement in making lymphatics and lymphedema a national health priority." *William Repicci, Executive Director, LE&RN*  demonstrates the willingness of the Senate to back that important occasion with research dollars. We are grateful to and proud of the leadership shown by Senator Schumer and Senator Gillibrand, both from our home state of New York. If passed, the funding would be an unprecedented achievement in making lymphatics and lymphedema a national health priority."

LE&RN is urging supporters to contact members of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health, and Human Services and to sign the <u>online petition</u> directed at the US Senate and particularly members of the Appropriations Subcommittee.

## About LE&RN

Founded in 1998, the Lymphatic Education & Research Network (formerly LRF) is a 501(c)(3) not-for profit organization whose mission is to fight lymphatic disease and lymphedema through education, research and advocacy. LE&RN provides valuable educational resources for the millions of people who suffer from lymphedema and lymphatic disease. LE&RN fosters and supports research that can deepen the medical community's understanding of the lymphatic system. For more information about lymphatic disease or the Lymphatic Education & Research Network. visit www.LymphaticNetwork.org.



U.S. Senator Chuck Schumer (D-NY) meets with LE&RN Spokesperson Kathy Bates about lymphedema and lymphatic disease research funding.

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