

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

**Traumatic Brain Injury:
A leading cause of Death and Disability
in Young Americans**

Dear Colleague:

We are writing to urge you to join us in sending a letter to the Chairman and Ranking Member of the LHHS Subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee, asking them to *support increased funding for several programs funded through the Traumatic Brain Injury*. We request the total amount of \$30 million in the FY 2008 Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education appropriations bill.

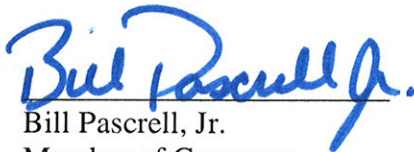
Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) is the leading cause of death and disability in young Americans. **Approximately 1.4 million Americans experience TBI each year.** Every 21 seconds, one person in the US sustains a traumatic brain injury. About half of these cases result in at least short-term disability, and 50,000 people die as a result of their injuries. Every year about 80,000 people sustain severe brain injuries leading to long term disability.

An estimated 5.3 million Americans are living with long term, severe disability as a result of brain injury. The national cost is estimated at more than \$60 billion annually.

These funds are sorely needed, and will help ensure that a greater percentage of the estimated 5.3 million Americans living with a disability as a result of a traumatic brain injury (TBI) have access to the services they need.

If you would like to sign on to the letter or have any questions please contact Charla Penn McManus (Rep. Pascrell) 5-5751 or Becky Braunstein (Rep. Platts) 5-5836.

Sincerely,


Bill Pascrell, Jr.
Member of Congress


Todd Russell Platts
Member of Congress