

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF
NEUROLOGICAL SURGEONS

KATHLEEN T. CRAIG, CEO
5550 Meadowbrook Drive
Rolling Meadows, IL 60008
Phone: 888-566-AANS
Fax: 847-378-0600
info@aans.org



American
Association of
Neurological
Surgeons



Congress of
Neurological
Surgeons

CONGRESS OF
NEUROLOGICAL SURGEONS

REGINA SHUPAK, CEO
10 North Martingale Road, Suite 190
Schaumburg, IL 60173
Phone: 877-517-1CNS
FAX: 847-240-0804
info@cns.org

President
ANN R. STROINK, MD
Bloomington, Illinois

President
ELAD I. LEVY, MD
Buffalo, New York

March 29, 2023

The Honorable Richard Blumenthal
United States Senate
706 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

SUBJECT: Neurosurgery Support for S. 895, Ellie's Law

Dear Senator Blumenthal,

On behalf of the American Association of Neurological Surgeons (AANS) and Congress of Neurological Surgeons (CNS), we are pleased to support your legislation, S.895, Ellie's Law.

As you know, an estimated 6.6 million people in the United States, or one in 50 people, have an unruptured brain aneurysm. Each year, an estimated 30,000 people in the U.S. suffer a brain aneurysm rupture, 50 percent of which are fatal. Of those who survive, about 66 percent suffer some permanent neurological deficit. Additionally, the economic toll on survivors, their caretakers and the health care community is significant, with the direct cost to patients reaching approximately \$1.4 billion. Shockingly, this amount does not reflect indirect costs such as travel, food, childcare or wage losses for patients and caretakers. Despite these startling statistics, the federal government spends only \$2.08 per American afflicted with the disease each year. Notwithstanding its widespread prevalence, federal funding for brain aneurysm research is almost non-existent.

Importantly, Ellie's Law would authorize \$10 million in funding for the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke to further our knowledge and understanding of brain aneurysms and how to effectively manage and treat this condition.

Organized neurosurgery is very concerned about the current lack of federal funding devoted to brain aneurysm research, particularly those initiatives focused on prevention, detection, treatment and rehabilitation. We look forward to assisting in your efforts to pass this crucial legislation.

Sincerely,

Ann R. Stroink, MD, President
American Association of Neurological Surgeons

Elad I. Levy, MD, President
Congress of Neurological Surgeons

Washington Office Contact:

Adrienne R. Mortimer, Director
Legislative and Political Affairs
AANS/CNS Washington Office
25 Massachusetts Ave., NW, Suite 610
Washington, D.C. 20001
Cell: 703-254-9424
Email: amortimer@neurosurgery.org