

CDC Coalition

December 4, 2017

The Honorable Thad Cochran
Chairman
Senate Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Vice Chairman
Senate Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Roy Blunt
Chairman
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee
on Labor, Health and Human Services,
Education and Related Agencies
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patty Murray
Ranking Member
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee
on Labor, Health and Human Services,
Education and Related Agencies
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairmen Cochran and Blunt and Vice Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Murray:

The undersigned XXX members of the CDC Coalition and other supporting state and national organizations urge you to provide at least \$7.8 billion for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's programs as you work to develop a final FY 2018 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies Appropriations bill or other final FY 2018 funding legislation. We urge you to restore any cuts to important CDC programs and maintain at least the highest level of funding for CDC programs that were included in the bills passed by House and Senate Appropriations Committees earlier this year and to reject the inclusion of any controversial policy riders that would threaten public health. We believe that Congress should prioritize funding for all of the activities and programs supported by CDC. CDC programs are essential to protect the health of the American people. Furthermore, we are deeply concerned about ongoing efforts to repeal, cut or divert funding from the Prevention and Public Health Fund, authorized by the Affordable Care Act, and the impact the loss of this funding would have on CDC's annual budget. The Prevention and Public Health Fund currently accounts for 12 percent of CDC's budget and Congress must ensure that CDC's budget remains whole in the face of any effort to repeal or weaken the ACA and the prevention fund.

The CDC Coalition is a nonpartisan coalition of organizations committed to strengthening our nation's public health infrastructure and prevention programs. Our mission is to ensure that health promotion and disease prevention are given top priority in federal funding, to support a funding level for CDC that enables it to carry out its prevention mission and to assure an adequate translation of new research into effective state and local programs. Coalition member groups represent millions of public health workers, researchers, clinicians, educators and citizens served by CDC programs.

CDC serves as the command center for the nation's public health defense system against emerging and reemerging infectious diseases. From aiding in the surveillance, detection and prevention of the Zika virus to playing a lead role in the control of Ebola in West Africa and detecting and responding to cases in the U.S., to monitoring and investigating disease outbreaks to pandemic flu preparedness, CDC is the nation's – and the world's – expert resource and response center, coordinating communications and action and serving as the laboratory reference center.

States, communities and the international community rely on CDC for accurate information and direction in a crisis or outbreak.

CDC is faced with unprecedented challenges and responsibilities ranging from emergency preparedness, chronic disease prevention, to combating the tobacco and obesity epidemics. CDC funds programs for injury control and violence prevention; global health security; health promotion in schools and workplaces; the prevention of diabetes, heart disease, stroke, cancer, lung disease and other chronic diseases; nutrition and physical activity; immunization; environmental health, including the prevention of childhood lead poisoning; oral health; reducing health disparities; preventing infant mortality and birth defects; preventing antimicrobial resistance; preventing prescription drug overdose and public health research and health statistics. It is notable that more than 70 percent of CDC's budget supports public health and prevention activities by state and local health organizations and agencies, national public health partners and academic institutions.

In addition to ensuring a strong public health infrastructure and protecting Americans from public health threats and emergencies, CDC programs are crucial to reducing health care costs and improving health. Despite the progress CDC has made to meet these needs, the agency's programs have been woefully underfunded to confront the myriad public health issues facing the nation. We urge you to support a funding level of at least \$7.8 billion for CDC programs in FY 2018.

Please contact Don Hoppert at donald.hoppert@apha.org or 202-777-2514 with any questions regarding our request.

Sincerely,

1,000 Days

Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
American Academy of Pediatrics
American Association for Dental Research
American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases
American Association of Colleges of Nursing
American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy
American Association on Health and Disability
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network
American Foundation for the Blind
American Heart Association
American Lung Association
American Psychological Association
American Public Health Association
American Society for Clinical Pathology
American Society for Microbiology
American Society for Nutrition
American Society of Hematology
American Society of Tropical Medicine & Hygiene
American Statistical Association
American Thoracic Society
Arizona Public Health Association
Arthritis Foundation
Association for Prevention Teaching and Research

Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology
Association of Accredited Public Health Programs
Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs
Association of Population Centers
Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health
Association of State and Territorial Health Officials
Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America
Autism Family Services of New Jersey
Avery's Angels Gastroschisis Foundation
Center for Science in the Public Interest
Children's Environmental Health Network
Coalition for Health Funding
Connecticut Public Health Association
Cooley's Anemia Foundation
Council of State and Territorial Health Officials
Delaware Academy of Medicine - Delaware Public Health Association
Digestive Disease National Coalition
Dystonia Medical Research Foundation
Eat Smart Move More South Carolina
Epilepsy Foundation of New Jersey
Every Child By Two
Friends of National Center for Health Statistics
Friends of NCBDDD
GBS|CIDP Foundation International
Green & Healthy Homes Initiative
Hawaii Public Health Association
Healthy Teen Network
HIV Medicine Association
Idaho Public Health Organization
Immunize Nevada
Infectious Diseases Society of America
International Foundation for Functional Gastrointestinal Disorders
Interstitial Cystitis Association
Iowa Public Health Association
Jeffrey Modell Foundation
Kansas Public Health Association
Lakeshore Foundation
Lung Cancer Alliance
Maine Public Health Association
March of Dimes
Michigan Public Health Association
Missouri Public Health Association
Montana Public Health Association
NAME (National Association of Medical Examiners)
NAPHSIS
NASTAD
National Alopecia Areata Foundation
National Association of Chronic Disease Directors
National Association of County and City Health Officials

National Birth Defects Prevention Network
National Black Nurses Association
National Blood Clot Alliance
National Coalition of STD Directors
National Environmental Health Association
National Family Planning & Reproductive Health Association
National Network of Public Health Institutes
National Recreation and Park Association
National Safety Council
NC Public Health Association
NephCure Kidney International
Nevada Public Health Association
Nevada Public Health Institute
New Hampshire Public Health Association
New Jersey Public Health Association
New Mexico Public Health Association
North Carolina Public Health Association
North Dakota Public Health Association
Ohio Public Health Association
Ohio Public Health Association
Oklahoma Public Health Association
Origins FTD, Inc.
Parent Project Muscular Dystrophy (PPMD)
Population Association of America
Prevent Blindness
Prevention Institute
Public Health Foundation
Public Health Institute
Puerto Rico Public Health Association
Pulmonary Hypertension Association
Research!America
Sabin Vaccine Institute
Safe States Alliance
Scleroderma Foundation
Sexuality Information and Education Council of the U.S. (SIECUS)
Sleep Research Society
Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine
Society for Public Health Education
Southern California Public Health Association (SCPHA)
Spina Bifida Association
Spina Bifida Association
Tennessee Public Health Association
The AIDS Institute
The Family Resource Network (NJ)
The Marfan Foundation
The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy
The Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America
Tourette Association of America
Trust for America's Health

U.S. Hereditary Angioedema Association
Washington State Public Health Association
Wayne State University Center for Health and Community Impact
Wisconsin Public Health Association
YMCA of the USA

Cc: The Honorable Mitch McConnell
The Honorable Charles Schumer
House Appropriations Committee