

CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION (CDC) COALITION
C/o American Public Health Association (202) 777-2514 www.cdccoalition.org

October 18, 2016

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

The Honorable Barbara Mikulski
Ranking Member
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 Ranking Members Mikulski and Murray:

The undersigned members of the CDC Coalition and other supporting state and national organizations urge you to provide at least \$7.8 billion in full-year FY 2017 funding for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's programs as you work to develop a final FY 2017 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies Appropriations bill or other final FY 2017 spending legislation. We also urge you to restore any cuts to important 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 that are essential to protect the health of the American people.

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 last year's multi-state measles outbreak 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, birth defects and disabilities; 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 2017.

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

Sincerely,

Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
AcademyHealth
Alabama Public Health Association
American Academy of Pediatrics
American Association for Dental Research
American Association of Colleges of Nursing
American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy
American Association on Health and Disability (AAHD)
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network
American College of Preventive Medicine
American Diabetes Association
American Heart Association
American Lung Association
American Optometric Association
American Psychological Association
American Public Health Association
American Society for Clinical Pathology
American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy
American Society for Reproductive Medicine
American Thoracic Society
Arkansas Public Health Association
Arthritis Foundation
Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology
Association of Black Cardiologists
Association of Minority Health Professions Schools, Inc.
Association of Public Health Laboratories
Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health
Association of State and Territorial Health Officials
Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America

Center for Science in the Public Interest
Children's Environmental Health Network
Coalition for Health Funding
Colorado Public Health Association
Commissioned Officers Association of the U.S. Public Health Service, Inc. (COA)
Community Health Partners of Sioux County
Cooley's Anemia Foundation
Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists
Crohn's & Colitis Foundation of America
Delaware Academy of Medicine / Delaware Public Health Association
Digestive Disease National Coalition
Dystonia Medical Research Foundation
Epilepsy Foundation
GBS|CIDP Foundation International
Green & Healthy Homes Initiative
Hawaii Public Health Association
Healthcare Ready
HealthHIV
Healthy Teen Network
Hepatitis Foundation International
HIV Medicine Association
IC&RC
Illinois Public Health Association
Infectious Diseases Society of America
Interstitial Cystitis Association
Iowa Public Health Association
Lakeshore Foundation
Lung Cancer Alliance
Maine Public Health Association
March of Dimes
Meharry Medical College
Michigan Public Health Association
Minnesota Public Health Association
Missouri Public Health Association
Montana Public Health Association
Morehouse School of Medicine
NAPHSIS: National Association for Public Health Statistics and Information Systems
National Alliance of State & Territorial AIDS Directors (NASTAD)
National Alopecia Areata Foundation
National Association of Chronic Disease Directors
National Association of County and City Health Officials
National Coalition for LGBT Health
National Environmental Health Association
National Network of Public Health Institutes
National Recreation and Park Association
National Safety Council
National Violence Prevention Network
NephCure Kidney International
Nevada Public Health Association
New Mexico Public Health Association

New York State Public Health Association
North Carolina Public Health Association
North Dakota Public Health Association
Ohio Public Health Association
Oklahoma Public Health Association
Oregon Public Health Association
Prevent Blindness
Public Health Association of Nebraska
Public Health Association of New York City
Public Health Institute
Pulmonary Hypertension Association
Research!America
Safe States Alliance
Scleroderma Foundation
Sexuality Information and Education Council of the U.S. (SIECUS)
Sleep Research Society
South Carolina Public Health Association
South Dakota Public Health Association
Southern California Public Health Association
Tennessee Public Health Association
The AIDS Institute
The Marfan Foundation
The Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America
Trust for America's Health
Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine, Nursing and Allied Health
US Hereditary Angioedema Association
Washington State Public Health Association
Wisconsin Public Health Association
WomenHeart: The National Coalition for Women with Heart Disease
Wyoming Public Health Association
YMCA of the USA

Cc: The Honorable Mitch McConnell
The Honorable Harry Reid
Senate Appropriations Committee