

CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION (CDC) COALITION

c/o American Public Health Association 800 I Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20001 (202) 777-2514

March 16, 2010

The Honorable Daniel Inouye
Chairman
Senate Appropriations Committee
S-128, Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Thad Cochran
Ranking Member
Senate Appropriations Committee
S-146A, Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable David Obey
Chairman
House Appropriations Committee
2358 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jerry Lewis
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Committee
1016 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Tom Harkin
Chairman
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee
on Labor, HHS and Education
131 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Todd Tiahrt
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Subcommittee
on Labor, HHS and Education
1016 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senators Inouye, Cochran and Harkin and Representatives Obey and Lewis and Tiahrt:

The undersigned members of the CDC Coalition urge you to provide at least \$8.8 billion for CDC's FY 2011 "core programs" as you move forward with your work on the FY 2011 Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations bill. Our request reflects the support CDC will need to fulfill its core missions for fiscal year 2011. We strongly believe that the activities and programs supported by CDC are essential to protect the health of the American people.

The CDC Coalition is a nonpartisan coalition of more than 100 groups committed to strengthening our nation's 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 the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (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 is faced with unprecedented challenges and responsibilities, ranging from bioterrorism preparedness, chronic disease prevention, eliminating health disparities, combating the tobacco and obesity epidemics to helping the nation prepare for the health impacts of climate change. In addition, CDC funds community programs in injury control and violence prevention; health promotion efforts in communities including schools and workplaces; initiatives to prevent heart and lung disease, cancer, stroke, and other chronic diseases; improvements in nutrition and immunization; programs to monitor and combat environmental effects on health; interventions to improve oral health; prevention of birth defects; public health research; strategies to prevent antimicrobial resistance and infectious diseases; and data collection and analysis on a host of vital statistics and other health indicators. It is notable that more than 70 percent of CDC's budget supports state and local health organizations and academic institutions.

CDC serves as the command center for our nation's public health defense system against emerging and reemerging infectious diseases. From pandemic flu preparedness and prevention activities to West Nile virus to smallpox to SARS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention 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 and communities rely on CDC for accurate information and direction in a crisis or outbreak. CDC's leadership was especially critical in its efforts to provide support and guidance to state and local health departments as well as the public in its response to the 2009 H1N1 influenza virus.

In addition to playing a key role in maintaining a strong public health infrastructure and protecting Americans from public health threats and emergencies, the CDC Coalition believes that CDC programs will play a crucial role in reducing healthcare costs and improving the public's health as Congress and the Administration continue to work to reform the nation's health system. **We are grateful for your support in the past and urge you to support a funding level of \$8.8 billion for CDC's "core programs" in fiscal year 2011.**

Sincerely,

AIDS Action
AIDS Institute
American Academy of Pediatrics
American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance
American Association for Health Education
American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy
American College of Clinical Pharmacy
American College of Preventive Medicine
American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
American Heart Association
American Lung Association
American Physical Therapy Association
American Podiatric Medical Association
American Public Health Association
American School Health Association
American Social Health Association
American Society for Clinical Pathology
American Society for Microbiology
American Society for Reproductive Medicine
American Thoracic Society
Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology
Association for Prevention Teaching and Research
Association of Reproductive Health Professionals
Association of Schools of Public Health
Association of State and Territorial Directors of Nursing
Association of State and Territorial Health Officials
Boston Public Health Commission
Campaign for Public Health
Center for Science in the Public Interest
Children's Environmental Health Network
Coalition for Health Services Research
Community Health Councils, Inc.
Commissioned Officers Association of the U.S. Public Health Service

Cooley's Anemia Foundation
Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists
Crohn's & Colitis Foundation of America
Digestive Disease National Coalition
Family Violence Prevention Fund
Friends of NCHS
HIV Medicine Association
Healthy Teen Network
Hepatitis Foundation International
Infectious Diseases Society of America
Interstitial Cystitis Association
Jeffrey Modell Foundation
March of Dimes Foundation
National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors
National Association of Chronic Disease Directors
National Association of Local Boards of Health
National Association of State EMS Officials
National Association for Public Health Statistics and Information Systems
National Association for Sport and Physical Education
National Association of County and City Health Officials
National Black Nurses Association
National Coalition of STD Directors
National Marfan Foundation
National Network for Youth
National REACH Coalition
Nephcure Foundation
Partnership for Prevention
Pulmonary Hypertension Association
Research!America
Scleroderma Foundation
Sexuality Information and Education Council of the U.S.
Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America
Trust for America's Health
Urban Coalition for HIV/AIDS Prevention Services
WomenHeart: The National Coalition for Women with Heart Disease
YMCA of the USA

Cc: House Appropriations Committee
Senate Appropriations Committee