

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

November 16, 2015

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

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Chairman  
House Appropriations Subcommittee  
on Labor, Health and Human Services,  
Education and Related Agencies  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
House Appropriations Subcommittee  
on Labor, Health and Human Services,  
Education and Related Agencies  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairmen Blunt and Cole and Ranking Members Murray and DeLauro:

The undersigned members of the CDC Coalition and other supporting organizations urge you to provide the highest possible funding level for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's programs as you finalize FY 2016 spending legislation. Earlier this year, the coalition recommended a funding level of \$7.8 billion for CDC in FY 2016.

We are pleased that Congress and the administration were able to come together to enact the Bipartisan Budget Act that will provide much needed additional resources for nondefense discretionary programs in FY 2016. We strongly urge you to use these additional dollars to adequately fund all of the activities and programs supported by CDC that are essential to protecting the health of the American people. As an agency, CDC has been woefully underfunded and the agency's overall program level funding remains lower than 2010 levels, even without adjusting for inflation. We also ask you to work to restore the proposed cuts to CDC programs in the House and Senate FY 2016 Labor-HHS-Education spending bills drafted prior to the passage of the budget deal. Several programs including the Partnerships to Improve Community Health, Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health, tobacco control, several important programs within the National Center for Environmental Health and sexually transmitted infection prevention grants were eliminated or severely cut in at least one of the proposals. Finally, we ask you to reject the inclusion of any ideological policy riders that would hamper the ability of the agency to protect the public from the many health threats we face as a nation.

The CDC Coalition is a nonpartisan coalition of organizations committed to strengthening the 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 is faced with unprecedented challenges and responsibilities ranging from emergency preparedness, chronic disease prevention, to combating the tobacco, opioid 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; oral health; 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.

CDC serves as the command center for the nation's public health defense system against emerging and reemerging infectious diseases. From aiding in the prevention and control of Ebola in West Africa and detecting and responding to cases in the U.S., to monitoring and investigating the ongoing 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.

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 invest in all of CDC's programs as you finalize your work on FY 2016 spending legislation.

Sincerely,

AcademyHealth  
Adult Congenital Heart Association  
Allergy & Asthma Network  
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 College of Preventive Medicine  
American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists  
American Dental Association  
American Heart Association  
American Lung Association  
American Psychological Association  
American Public Health Association  
American Society for Clinical Pathology  
American Society of Hematology  
American Thoracic Society  
American Thrombosis and Hemostasis Network  
Arizona Public Health Association

Arkansas Public Health Association  
Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology  
Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs  
Association of Public Health Laboratories  
Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health  
Association of State and Territorial Health Officials  
Association of University Centers on Disabilities  
Association of Women's Health Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses  
Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America  
Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America, New England Chapter  
Brockton Interfaith Community, Inc. (MA)  
California Consortium of Addiction Programs and Professionals  
California Public Health Association-North  
Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids  
Center for Science in the Public Interest  
Children's Environmental Health Network  
Coalition for Health Funding  
Commissioned Officers Association of the U.S. Public Health Service, Inc., (COA)  
Consortium of Social Science Associations  
Cooley's Anemia Foundation  
Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists  
Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America  
Delaware Academy of Medicine/Delaware Public Health Association  
Digestive Disease National Coalition  
Epilepsy Foundation  
Epilepsy Foundation of New Jersey  
Equity Realty Plus (MA)  
Every Child By Two - Carter/Bumpers Champions for Immunization  
Friends of NCHS  
Green & Healthy Homes Initiative  
Healthy Teen Network  
HIV Medicine Association  
Idaho Public Health Association  
Illinois Alcohol and Drug Dependence Association  
Illinois Public Health Association  
Infectious Diseases Society of America  
International Certification and Reciprocity Consortium  
Interstitial Cystitis Association  
Iowa Public Health Association  
Jeffrey Modell Foundation  
Lakeshore Foundation  
Louisiana Public Health Association  
March of Dimes  
Maryland Public Health Association  
Messiah Baptist Church (MA)  
Michigan Public Health Association  
Minnesota Public Health Association  
NAPHSIS: National Association for Public Health Statistics and Information Systems  
National Alliance of State & Territorial AIDS Directors  
National Association of County and City Health Officials

National Association of State Emergency Medical Services Officials  
National Birth Defects Prevention Study  
National Black Nurses Association  
National Blood Clot Alliance  
National Coalition of STD Directors  
National Family Planning and Reproductive Health Association  
National Hemophilia Foundation  
National Network of Public Health Institutes  
National Recreation and Park Association  
National Safety Council  
Nevada Public Health Association  
New Hampshire Public Health Association  
New Mexico Public Health Association  
North Carolina Public Health Association  
North Dakota Public Health Association  
Ohio Public Health Association  
Old Colony Elder Services, Inc. (MA)  
Oregon Public Health Association  
Public Health Association of Nebraska  
Public Health Institute  
Safe States Alliance  
Sexuality Information and Education Council of the U.S. (SIECUS)  
Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine  
Society for Public Health Education  
Southern California Public Health Association  
Spina Bifida Association  
Stoughton Public Schools (MA)  
Tennessee Public Health Associations  
Texas Public Health Association  
The AIDS Institute  
The Arc  
The Family Resource Network  
The Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America  
Tourette Association of America  
Trust for America's Health  
Vermont Public Health Association  
Visiting Dental Hygienist, LLC  
Washington State Public Health Association  
WomenHeart: The National Coalition for women with Heart Disease  
Wyoming Public Health Association  
YMCA of the USA

Cc: The Honorable Paul Ryan  
The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
The Honorable Harry Reid  
House Appropriations Committee  
Senate Appropriations Committee