

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

March 1, 2016

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 \$7.8 billion for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's programs in the FY 2017 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies Appropriations bill. We are disappointed that President Obama's FY 2017 budget request proposes to cut CDC's program level by \$194 million below the FY 2016 level. While the president's proposal provides increased funding for some important initiatives, other important programs would be level funded, cut or completely eliminated. 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 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 \$7.8 billion for CDC programs in FY 2017.

Please contact Don Hoppert at [donald.hoppert@apha.org](mailto:donald.hoppert@apha.org) or 202-777-2514 with any questions regarding our request.

Sincerely,

Academic Consortium for Integrative Medicine & Health  
Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics  
AcademyHealth  
Advocates for Better Children's Diets  
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  
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network  
American College of Clinical Pharmacy  
American College of Preventive Medicine  
American Council on Exercise  
American Dental Hygienists' Association  
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 Thoracic Society  
Arthritis Foundation  
Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology  
Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges  
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  
Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America  
Calhoun County Office of Senior Services  
California Consortium of Addiction Programs & Professionals  
Center for Science in the Public Interest  
Children's Environmental Health Network  
Coalition for Health Funding  
Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA)  
Consortium of Social Science Associations  
Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists  
Friends of NCHS  
Green & Healthy Homes Initiative  
Hawaii Public Health Association  
Healthy Teen Network  
Hispanic Health Initiatives, Inc.  
HIV Medicine Association  
Idaho Public Health Association  
Illinois Alcohol & Drug Dependence Association  
Infectious Diseases Society of America  
International Certification & Reciprocity Consortium (IC&RC)  
Iowa Public Health Association  
Lakeshore Foundation  
Maine Public Health Association  
March of Dimes  
Minnesota Public Health Association  
Mississippi Public Health Association  
Missouri Public Health Association  
NAPHSIS  
NASTAD (National Alliance of State & Territorial AIDS Directors)  
National Association of Chronic Disease Directors (NACDD)  
National Association of County and City Health Officials  
National Center for Healthy Housing  
National Coalition of STD Directors  
National Environmental Health Association  
National Network of Public Health Institutes  
National Recreation and Park Association  
National Safety Council  
National Violence Prevention Network  
Nevada Public Health Association  
New Hampshire Public Health Association  
New Jersey Public Health Association  
North Carolina Public Health Association  
North Dakota Public Health Association  
Ohio Public Health Association  
Prevent Blindness  
Prevention Institute  
Public Health Association of Nebraska  
Public Health Institute  
Research!America

Safe Kids Worldwide  
Safe States Alliance  
Sexuality Information and Education Council of the U.S. (SIECUS)  
Society for Public Health Education  
The AIDS Institute  
The Arc  
The Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America  
Tourette Association of America  
Trust for America's Health  
Vermont Public Health Association  
WomenHeart: The National Coalition for Women with Heart Disease  
YMCA of the USA

Cc: House Appropriations Committee  
Senate Appropriations Committee