



COALITION *for* HEALTH FUNDING



February 22, 2016

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

The Honorable Barbara Mikulski
Vice Chairwoman, Committee on Appropriations
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Harold Rogers
Chairman, Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nita Lowey
Ranking Member, Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The more than 660 undersigned organizations—representing the full range of stakeholders supporting the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services (HHS), and Education and related agencies—urge you to allocate as high a funding level as possible to these programs and services in the fiscal year (FY) 2017 302(b) subcommittee allocations. The activities administered by these departments and agencies serve a broad range of constituencies and needs, but they all share a common, fundamental goal of strengthening this nation by improving Americans' lives.

Despite their profound impact on health and well-being, child development, educational and skills attainment, and productivity, programs and services of the "Labor-HHS" spending bill continue to be short-changed in the annual appropriations process. For example, with the much-needed sequestration relief provided through the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015, the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2016 provided nondefense discretionary programs with a 6.9 percent increase overall, but programs in the Labor-HHS bill only received a 3.3 percent increase over 2015 levels. As a result, funding for Americans' health, education, workforce, and social services programs—representing more than half of all nondefense discretionary spending—rose less than half as much as the nondefense average. At the same time, the Labor-HHS allocation remains about 10 percent below FY 2010 levels, adjusted for inflation.

Continuing to underfund these programs and agencies is irresponsible and unsustainable. The effects of short changing the Labor-HHS allocation are:

- Slowing scientific discovery in basic, biomedical, and health services research that prevents disease, improves health, and curbs medical costs;
- Eroding the public health infrastructure and workforce, limiting our ability to respond to public health crises and monitor health trends for new and emerging threats;
- Hindering efforts to close troubling achievement gaps, raise overall student achievement, and increase high school graduation, college access and completion rates;
- Leaving far too many low-income children without access to high quality preschool and other early learning opportunities;
- Hindering efforts of our local employers to fill the approximately five million jobs in the U.S. because too many workers lack the necessary postsecondary education and credentials to fill these positions;

- Preventing almost one million citizens from accessing the critical workforce and job training services that Congress overwhelmingly authorized last year; and
- Ignoring the needs of individuals who find themselves without a high school credential and who need a pathway back to education, employment and active citizenship.

Without an increase in the Labor-HHS 302(b) allocation, it will be virtually impossible to meaningfully increase investments in important initiatives—such as expanding medical research at the National Institutes of Health, implementing the bipartisan Every Student Succeeds Act, continuing to improve college affordability and completion, or achieving the goals contained in the bipartisan Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act (WIOA)—without deep cuts in other equally important initiatives.

We urge lawmakers to commit to improving the lives of Americans by increasing the Labor-HHS appropriations allocation in FY 2017. If you have questions about this letter, please contact:

Emily Holubowich, Coalition for Health Funding (202-484-1100 or eholubowich@dc-crd.com);
 Joel Packer, Committee for Education Funding (202-383-0083 or JPacker@cef.org); or
 Bridget Brown, Campaign to Invest in America’s Workforce (202-589-1790 or bridget@nawdp.org).

Sincerely,

9to5, National Association of Working Women
 A World Fit For Kids!
 AASA, The School Superintendents Association
 Academic Pediatric Association
 Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
 Academy of Radiology Research
 AcademyHealth
 ACT for NIH
 ActionAIDS
 Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research
 ADAP Advocacy Association (aaa+)
 Adult Congenital Heart Association
 Advocates for Children and Youth
 Advocates for Youth
 African American Health Alliance
 Afterschool Alliance
 AIDS Alabama
 AIDS Alliance for Women, Infants, Children, Youth & Families
 AIDS Project Los Angeles
 AIDS United
 Alabaster
 Alaska Adult Education Association
 Alaska Association of TRiO Programs
 Alaska Literacy Program
 All Our Kin
 Alliance for Aging Research
 Alliance for Lupus Research
 Alpha-1 Foundation
 Alzheimer's Association

American Academy of Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology
American Academy of Ambulatory Care Nursing
American Academy of Family Physicians
American Academy of Physician Assistants
American Academy of Pediatrics
American Alliance of Museums
American Association for Dental Research
American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases
American Association of Colleges of Nursing
American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine
American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy
American Association of Colleges of Podiatric Medicine
American Association of Community Colleges
American Association of Neuromuscular and Electrodiagnostic Medicine
American Association of University Women (AAUW)
American Association on Health and Disability
American Brain Coalition
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network
American College of Clinical Pharmacy
American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians
American College of Physicians
American College of Preventive Medicine
American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
American Council on Education
American Counseling Association
American Dance Therapy Association
American Dental Association
American Dental Education Association
American Dental Hygienists' Association
American Diabetes Association
American Educational Research Association
American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees
American Federation of Teachers
American Heart Association
American Hospital Association
American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering
American Library Association
American Lung Association
American Music Therapy Association
American Occupational Therapy Association
American Optometric Association
American Organization of Nurse Executives
American Pediatric Society
American Pediatric Surgical Nurses Association (APSNA)
American Physiological Society
American Psychiatric Association
American Psychological Association
American Public Health Association
American School Counselor Association

American School Health Association
American Sexual Health Association
American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
American Society for Bone and Mineral Research
American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science
American Society for Clinical Pathology
American Society for Microbiology
American Society for Nutrition
American Society for Reproductive Medicine
American Society of Hematology
American Society of Nephrology
American Society of Pediatric Nephrology
American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene
American Sociological Association
American Speech-Language-Hearing Association
American Statistical Association
America's Essential Hospitals
APLA Health & Wellness
Arizona Association for Lifelong Learning
Arizona Center for Disability Law
Arkansas Advocates for Children and Families
Arkansas Association of Student Assistance Programs
Arkansas PTA
Arkansas Public Health Association
Arthritis Foundation
ASCD
Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum
Association for Career and Technical Education
Association for Clinical and Translational Science
Association for Equality and Excellence in Education
Association for Living History, Farm and Agricultural Museums
Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology
Association for Psychological Science
Association for Research in Otolaryngology
Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology
Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries
Association of American Cancer Institutes
Association of American Medical Colleges
Association of American Universities
Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges
Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations
Association of Assistive Technology Act Programs
Association of Clinicians for the Underserved
Association of Community Health Nursing Educators
Association of Educational Service Agencies
Association of Farmworker Opportunity Programs
Association of Independent Research Institutes
Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities
Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs

Association of Medical School Pediatric Department Chairs
Association of Minority Health Professions Schools (AMHPS)
Association of Nurses in AIDS Care
Association of Population Centers
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities
Association of Public Health Laboratories
Association of Rehabilitation Nurses
Association of School Business Officials International
Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health
Association of Science-Technology Centers
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
Augustus F. Hawkins Foundation
Autism Housing Pathways, Inc.
Avery's Angels Gastroschisis Foundation
Biophysical Society
Blue Faery: The Adrienne Wilson Liver Cancer Association
Boston Public Health Commission
Brain Injury Association of America
Bryan, Ohio/University of Toledo College of Medicine Area Health Education Center, Inc.
Bryn Mawr Peace Coalition
Buffalo River Services, Inc.
California Association of Museums
California Child Care Resource and Referral Network
California Council for Exceptional Children
California Council of Administrators of Special Education
California Polytechnic State University
California State University San Marcos
California State University, East Bay
California State University, Fresno
California State University, Los Angeles
California State University, Monterey Bay
California State University, Stanislaus
Campaign for America's Future
Caring Ambassadors Program, Inc.
CCAPP
Cedars-Sinai
Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP)
Center for Science in the Public Interest
Center for Women Policy Studies
Ceres Community Project
ChangeLab Solutions
Child Care Aware® of America
Child Care Law Center
Children's Advocacy Institute
Children's Cause for Cancer Advocacy
Children's Defense Fund

Children's Environmental Health Network
Children's Home Society of Washington
Children's Hospital Association
Children's Leadership Council
Children's Mental Health Network
Clearinghouse on Women's Issues
Coalition for Clinical and Translational Science
Coalition for Health Funding
Coalition of Higher Education Assistance Organizations
Coalition to Promote Research
Collaborative for Enhancing Diversity in Science
Colorado PTA
Columbia University
Commission on Adult Basic Education (COABE)
Commissioned Officers Association of the U.S. Public Health Service, Inc.
Committee for Education Funding
Community Access National Network - CANN
Community Access National Network (CANN)
Community Access Unlimited
Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA)
Community Coordinated Child Care, 4-C
Community Health Partners
Conestoga High School
Conference of Educational Administrators of Schools and Programs for the Deaf
Connecticut Association for Human Services
Connecticut PTA
Consortium of Social Science Associations
Cooley's Anemia Foundation
Corporation for a Skilled Workforce
CoSN (the Consortium for School Networking)
Council for Adult and Experiential Learning (CAEL)
Council for Exceptional Children
Council for Exceptional Children - Council for Children with Behavioral Disorders
Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) Miami 121
Council for Exceptional Children Chapter 606
Council for Exceptional Children Division for Research
Council for Opportunity in Education
Council of Administrators of Special Education, Inc. (CASE)
Council of the Great City Schools
Council on Social Work Education
Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America
CSH
cTp Community Health Consulting, Inc.
Cure Alzheimer's Fund
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation
Delaware Academy of Medicine / Delaware Public Health Association
Delaware PTA
Delaware Public Health Association / Delaware Academy of Medicine
Delaware Technical Community College

Directors of Health Promotion and Education
Disability Law Center of Alaska
Disability Law Colorado
Disability Rights Arkansas, Inc.
Disability Rights California
Disability Rights Center of VI
Disability Rights Maine
Disability Rights Mississippi
Disability Rights Nebraska
Disability Rights Network of Pennsylvania
Disability Rights New Jersey
Disability Rights New Mexico
Disability Rights North Carolina
Disability Rights Tennessee
Disability Rights Washington
Division for Early Childhood of the Council for Exceptional Children (DEC)
Dixie Hollins Adult Education Center
Dystonia Medical Research Foundation
Early Edge California
Easter Seals
Easter Seals Central Texas
Easter Seals North Texas
Easter Seals Rio Grande Valley
EDGE Consulting
Endocrine Society
Epilepsy Foundation
Erise Williams & Associates, Inc.
European PTA
Every Child Matters Education Fund
EveryLife Foundation for Rare Diseases
Faith Partnerships, Inc.
Family Voices
Father Martin's Ashley
Federal Lands Impacted Schools Association
Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology
Federation of Associations in Behavioral and Brain Sciences
First Five Years Fund
First Focus Campaign for Children
Florida Association of Museums
Florida PTA
Friends of AHRQ
Friends of NCHS
Friends of NIH Behavioral and Social Sciences Research
Friends of NIMHD
Friends of the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research
Futures Without Violence
GBS|CIDP Foundation International
Georgetown University
Georgia PTA

Georgia Public Health Association
God's Love We Deliver
Goodwill Industries International
Green & Healthy Homes Initiative
Harris County Department of Education
Health Professions and Nursing Education Coalition
HealthHIV
Healthy Kinder, Inc.
Healthy Teen Network
Heart Failure Society of America
Heartland Alliance for Human Needs & Human Rights
Heightened Independence and Progress
Hematology/Oncology Pharmacy Association
Hemophilia of Georgia
Hep C Alliance
Hep Free Hawaii
Hepatitis B Foundation
Hepatitis C Allies of Philadelphia (HepCAP)
Hepatitis Foundation International
Heritage Health and Housing
Higher Education Loan Coalition
Hispanic Dental Association (HDA)
HIV Medicine Association
Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters
IC&RC
Idaho Public Health Association
IDEA Infant Toddler Coordinators Association (ITCA)
Illinois Alcohol & Drug Dependence Association
Illinois Association for College Admission Counseling
Immigrant Service Providers Group/Health
Infectious Diseases Society of America
Insight Center for Community Economic Development
International Association for College Admission Counseling
International Association of Forensic Nurses
International Society for Technology in Education
Interstitial Cystitis Association
Iowa Association for College Admission Counseling
Iowa MAEOPP (TRIO)
Iowa Public Health Association
Islamic Relief USA
Jeffrey Modell Foundation
Jobs for the Future
JWI
Kachemak Bay Campus, KPC, UAA
Kansas Public Health Association
Kentucky PTA
Kitchen Angels
Knowledge Alliance
Lakeshore Foundation

LanguageArts Inc.
Latino Commission on AIDS
League of United Latin American Citizens
Learning Disabilities Association of America
Los Angeles Universal Preschool (LAUP)
Louisiana Council for Exceptional Children
Louisiana Public Health Association
Louisiana State PTA
Lupus Foundation of America
Lupus Research Institute
Lutheran Services in America
Magnet Schools of America
Maine Children's Alliance
Maine PTA
Maine Public Health Association
Making Change For Children
March of Dimes
Maryland Disability Law Center
Maryland Family Network
Maryland PTA
Maryland Public Health Association
Maryland United for Peace and Justice
Massachusetts PTA
McHenry County College
Meals on Wheels America
Medical Library Association
Meharry Medical College
Mental Health America
MENTOR: The National Mentoring Partnership
Meramec Valley R-III School District
Mesothelioma Applied Research Foundation
Metropolitan Area Neighborhood Nutrition Alliance (MANNA)
Michigan Association for College Admission Counseling
Michigan Museums Association
Michigan PTA
Minnesota Association for College Admission Counseling
Minnesota PTA
Minnesota Public Health Association
Missouri PTA
Missouri Public Health Association
Montana PTA
Montana Public Health Association
Morehouse School of Medicine
Movement is Life
Museums Alaska, Inc.
NAPHSIS
National AHEC Organization
National Alliance for Eye and Vision Research
National Alliance for Partnerships in Equity (NAPE)

National Alliance of State & Territorial AIDS Directors
National Alliance on Mental Illness
National Alliance on Mental Illness, Huntington
National Alliance on Mental Illness, Valley of the Sun Affiliate
National Alopecia Areata Foundation
National Asian Pacific American Families Against Substance Abuse
National Asian Pacific Center on Aging
National Association for Children's Behavioral Health
National Association for College Admission Counseling
National Association for Music Education (NAfME)
National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth
National Association for the Education of Young Children
National Association of Area Agencies on Aging
National Association of Community Health Centers
National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities
National Association of Counsel for Children
National Association of County and City Health Officials
National Association of Development Organizations (NADO)
National Association of Federally Impacted Schools
National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities
National Association of Nutrition and Aging Services Programs (NANASP)
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
National Association of Private Special Education Centers
National Association of RSVP Directors
National Association of School Psychologists
National Association of Secondary School Principals
National Association of Social Workers
National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors
National Association of State Directors of Career Technical Education Consortium (NASDCTEc)
National Association of State Directors of Special Education
National Association of State Head Injury Administrators
National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA)
National Association of Workforce Boards
National Association of Workforce Development Professionals
National Birth Defects Prevention Network
National Blood Clot Alliance
National Board for Certified Counselors
National Center for Families Learning
National Center for Farmworker Health
National Center for Healthy Housing
National Center for Learning Disabilities
National Coalition Against Domestic Violence
National Coalition for Literacy
National Coalition of STD Directors
National Council for Adult Learning
National Council for Behavioral Health
National Council for Community and Education Partnerships
National Council for Diversity in the Health Professions
National Council of Asian Pacific Americans (NCAPA)

National Council of Jewish Women
National Council of State Director of Adult Education (NCSDAE)
National Council on Aging
National Disability Rights Network
National Domestic Violence Hotline
National Down Syndrome Congress
National Education Association
National Environmental Health Association
National Family Planning and Reproductive Health Association
National Fragile X Foundation
National Fund for Workforce Solutions
National Health Care for the Homeless Council
National Hemophilia Foundation
National High School Equivalency Program/College Assistance Migrant Program Association
National Indian Impacted Schools Association
National League for Nursing
National Marrow Donor Program/Be The Match
National Multiple Sclerosis Society
National Network for Youth
National Network of Public Health Institutes
National Network to End Domestic Violence
National Organization for Women
National Patient Advocate Foundation
National PTA
National Recreation and Park Association
National Respite Coalition
National Rural Education Advocacy Coalition
National Rural Education Association
National Rural Recruitment and Retention Network (3RNet)
National Safety Council
National School Boards Association
National Skills Coalition
National Student Nurses' Association, Inc.
National Superintendents Roundtable
National Violence Prevention Network
National Viral Hepatitis Roundtable
National Women's Law Center
Native American Disability Law Center
Nebraska PTA
NephCure Kidney International
NETWORK, A National Catholic Social Justice Lobby
Nevada PTA
New American Movement for People With Disabilities
New England Association for College Admission Counseling
New England Museum Association
New Hampshire Public Health Association
New Jersey Association of Mental Health and Addiction Agencies, Inc.
New Jersey Public Health Association
New Mexico PTA

New Mexico Public Health Association
New Mexico Voices for Children
New York State Association for College Admissions Counseling
New York State Association of School Business Officials
New York State Association of County Health Officials
New York State PTA
New York University Langone Medical Center
North Carolina PTA
North Carolina Society for Public Health Education
North Dakota PTA
North Dakota Public Health Association
Northwest Association of Education Opportunity Programs
Noyes Museum
Ocean Township BOE
Ohio PTA
Ohio Public Health Association
Oklahoma Museums Association
Oklahoma PTA
Oncology Nursing Society
Oral Health America (OHA)
Oregon Health & Science University
Oregon PTA
Oregon Public Health Association
Oregon State University
Oregon TRIO Association
Ounce of Prevention Fund
Parents as Teachers
Parkinson's Action Network
Partners for Our Children
Partnership for America's Children
Pediatric Policy Council
Penn Medicine
Pennsylvania Association for Adult Continuing Education
Pennsylvania Association for the Education of Young Children (PennAEYC)
Pennsylvania Child Care Association
Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape
Pennsylvania PTA
Physician Assistant Education Association
Planned Parenthood Federation of America
Plaquemines Federation of Teachers
Population Association of America
Population Council
Positive Champions Speakers Bureau Inc.
Potomac and Chesapeake Association For College Admission Counseling
Poz Vets USA INTL
Pozitively Healthy
Prevent Blindness
Prevention Institute
Project Inform

ProLiteracy
ProMedica
Protection & Advocacy Project
Protection and Advocacy for People with Disabilities
Public Health Foundation
Public Health Institute
Pulmonary Hypertension Association
Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities Coalition
Randolph School
Reach Out and Read
Reading Is Fundamental
Results for America
Rhode Island Parent Information Network
Rhode Island PTA
RiverStone Health
Rocky Mountain ACAC
Ryan White Medical Providers Coalition
Safe States Alliance
San Diego State University
San Jose State University
Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law
Save the Children Action Network
Scholarship America
School Biz Match
School Social Work Association of America
School-Based Health Alliance
Scleroderma Foundation
SDPHA
Self Advocates of Washington
Seven Counties Services
Sexuality Information and Education Council of the U.S. (SIECUS)
Sjogren's Syndrome Foundation
Society for Health Psychology - APA Division 38
Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine
Society for Neuroscience
Society for Pediatric Research
Society for Public Health Education
Society for Research in Child Development
Society for Women's Health Research (SWHR)
Society of General Internal Medicine
Society of Gynecologic Oncology
Society of Urologic Nurses and Associates
South Carolina PTA
South Dakota PTA
Southern Association for College Admission Counseling (SACAC)
Southern California Public Health Association
Spina Bifida Association
St. George's University of Medicine
Stony Brook University

Student Aid Alliance
Student Public Health Association of Missouri
Student Support Services TRIO MSU Billings
Suffolk University Upward Bound
Teach For America
Teacher Education Division of the Council for Exceptional Children
TESOL International Association
Texas Association for College Admission Counseling
Texas Association of Museums
Texas Association of School Business Officials
Texas Association of Student Special Services Program
Texas Public Health Association
The AIDS Institute
The American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy
The American Geriatrics Society
The Arc
The Arc Central Chesapeake
The Arc of Illinois
The Arc of Massachusetts
The Arc of Shelby County
The Arc of Ventura County
The California State University
The Cave Institute
The Center for APA Women
The Children's Alliance
The Children's Campaign
The Clinical Research Forum
The Coalition for the Life Sciences
The Corps Network
The Gerontological Society of America
The Jewish Federations of North America
The Marfan Foundation
The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy
The Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America
The Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues
The Sturge-Weber Foundation
The Swan Project
Tourette Association of America
Transplant Recipients Organization International (TRIO)
Transplant Support Organization
TRIO New Mexico
Trust for America's Health
Tufts Medical Center
Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine, Nursing, and Allied Health
UNCF
United Spinal Association
United States Brain Injury Alliance
United States Breastfeeding Committee
United Way of King County

United Way Worldwide
University at Buffalo (SUNY)
University of Alabama at Birmingham Health System
University of California
University of California, Irvine
University of California, Irvine Health
University of California, Riverside
University of California, San Diego
University of California, Santa Barbara
University of California, Santa Cruz
University of Colorado, Boulder
University of Florida
University of Missouri System
University of New Mexico
University of North Carolina, Charlotte
University of Rochester
University of South Carolina
University of Toledo
University of Washington
US Hereditary Angioedema Association
UsAgainstAlzheimer's
Vermont Educational Opportunity Association
Vermont Public Health Association
Virginia Congress of Parents and Teachers
Voices for Florida
Voices of Tomorrow
Washington State Association of Head Start & ECEAP
Washington State PTA
Washington State Public Health Association
Washington State TRIO Association
Wellspring Family Services
West Virginia Center of Excellence for Disabilities
West Virginia PTA
West Virginia TRIO Incorporated
Western Museums Association
Wisconsin Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel
Wisconsin Council of Administrators of Special Services
WomenHeart: The National Coalition for Women with Heart Disease
Wyoming Congress of Parents and Teachers Association
Yale University
YMCA of the USA
Young Invincibles
ZERO TO THREE

Cc: Members, House and Senate Subcommittees on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies, Committees on Appropriations