CDC Coalition

December 20, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger Chair House Appropriations Committee Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Patty Murray Chair Senate Appropriations Committee Washington, DC 20510 The Honorable Rosa DeLauro Ranking Member House Appropriations Committee Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Susan Collins Vice Chair Senate Appropriations Committee Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairs Granger and Murray, Ranking Member DeLauro and Vice Chair Collins:

The undersigned 139 members of the CDC Coalition and other supporting state, national and academic organizations urge you to work in a bipartisan manner to quickly finalize the FY 2024 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies appropriations bill with the highest possible level of funding for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Earlier this year, our coalition wrote to the leaders of the Labor-HHS-Education appropriations subcommittees urging them to provide at least \$11.581 billion for CDC in FY 2024. While we understand that the debt ceiling agreement from earlier this year has limited the resources available to the Appropriations Committees since our original request, we continue to urge you to prioritize CDC funding and to oppose the inclusion of any cuts or partisan policy riders related to any of the agency's programs. It is essential that Congress fully finalize the FY 2024 process and avoid the extremely damaging sequestration cuts that would undermine nondefense discretionary programs, including those at CDC. Due to years of underfunding, many CDC programs have not received the resources that are needed to address the many health challenges we face as a nation, resulting in many of CDC's most effective prevention programs not reaching all states and communities.

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 ensure an adequate translation of new research into effective state and local programs. Coalition member groups represent millions of public health workers, researchers, clinicians, educators, academic institutions, health policy advocates, patients and individuals and families served by CDC programs.

CDC serves as the command center for the nation's public health defense system against emerging and reemerging infectious diseases as well as man-made and natural disasters. From playing a leading role in aiding in the surveillance, detection and mitigation of the COVID-19 pandemic in the U.S. and globally, to monitoring and investigating the mpox outbreak and other disease outbreaks in the U.S. and internationally, to pandemic flu preparedness, CDC is the

nation's – and a global – expert resource and response center, coordinating communications and action and serving as the laboratory reference center. States, communities and international partners rely on CDC for accurate information, direction and resources to ensure they can prepare, respond and recover from a crisis or disease outbreak.

CDC is also faced with other unprecedented challenges and responsibilities including chronic disease prevention. As the pandemic has demonstrated, chronic diseases and infectious diseases are inextricably linked. Good underlying health is a critical component to preventing severe infection and death from communicable diseases.

CDC plays a leading role in combating the opioid, tobacco, e-cigarette and obesity epidemics as well as emergency preparedness. CDC funds programs for strengthening public health infrastructure at all levels; strengthening and expanding the public health workforce; injury prevention; research into gun violence prevention; suicide prevention; global health security; health promotion in schools and workplaces; the prevention of diabetes, heart disease, stroke, cancer, lung disease and other chronic diseases; tobacco prevention and control; nutrition and physical activity; immunizations; HIV, STI, hepatitis and tuberculosis prevention; prevention of vector-borne diseases; environmental health, including the prevention of childhood lead poisoning and climate adaptation strategies; oral health; reducing health disparities; preventing maternal and infant mortality and birth defects; sickle cell disease data collection; preventing antimicrobial resistance; preventing prescription drug overdose; improving the health and quality of life of individuals with disabilities; Alzheimer's disease prevention and awareness; vision and eye health, public health research and health statistics and harmonizing clinical laboratory test results. It is notable that more than 70% of CDC's budget supports public health and prevention activities through 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 our communities from public health threats and emergencies, CDC programs are crucial to reducing health care costs and decreasing health disparities and improving health equity. Despite the progress CDC has made to meet these needs, the agency's programs remain woefully underfunded. We urge you to prioritize CDC funding and to reject any cuts or damaging policy riders related to the agency's programs in any final FY 2024 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies appropriations bill.

Please contact Don Hoppert at <u>don.hoppert@apha.org</u> or 202-777-2514 with any questions regarding our request.

Sincerely,

Accessia Health
Alabama Public Health Association
Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine (AAIM)
American Academy of Pediatrics
American Association for Dental, Oral, and Craniofacial Research
American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases
American Association of Colleges of Nursing
American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine
American Association on Health and Disability

American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN)

American College of Preventive Medicine

American College of Sports Medicine

American Heart Association

American Liver Foundation

American Lung Association

American Physical Therapy Association

American Public Health Association

American Society for Clinical Pathology

American Society for Microbiology

American Society of Hematology

American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene

American Thoracic Society

Arkansas Public Health Association

Arthritis Foundation

Association for Clinical and Translational Sciences

Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology

Association of American Medical Colleges

Association of Black Cardiologists

Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs

Association of Public Health Laboratories

Association of Schools Advancing Health Professions

Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health

Association of State and Territorial Health Officials

Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America

Big Cities Health Coalition

Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids

Celiac Disease Foundation

Children's Environmental Health Network

Choose Healthy Life

Coalition for Clinical and Translational Sciences

Community Liver Alliance

Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists

Delaware Academy of Medicine / Delaware Public Health Association

Dermatology Nurses Association

District of Columbia Public Health Association

Dystonia Advocacy Network

Dystonia Medical Research Foundation

Endocrine Society

Entomological Society of America

Epilepsy Foundation

Florida Public Health Association

Gaucher Community Alliance

GBS|CIDP Foundation International

Gerontological Society of America

GO2 for Lung Cancer

Good Days

Hawaii Public Health Association

Healthy Teen Network

Hereditary Angioedema Association

HIV Medicine Association

HIV+Hepatitis Policy Institute

Hope Charities

Illinois Public Health Association

Illinois Society for the Prevention of Blindness

Indiana Public Health Association

Infectious Diseases Society of America

International Foundation for Gastrointestinal Disorders

International WELL Building Institute

Interstitial Cystitis Association

Iowa Public Health Association

Johns Hopkins University & Medicine

Kansas Public Health Association

Keck School of Medicine of the University of Southern California

Lakeshore Foundation

Lymphatic Education & Research Network

Maine Public Health Association

March of Dimes

Massachusetts Public Health Association

METAvivor

Minnesota Public Health Association

Missouri Public Health Association

Naphsis

NASTAD

National Alopecia Areata Foundation

National Association of Chronic Disease Directors

National Association of County and City Health Officials

National Association of Local Boards of Health

National Center for Healthy Housing

National Coalition of STD Directors

National Eczema Association

National Environmental Health Association

National Network of Public Health Institutes

National Pancreas Foundation

National Safety Council

National Scleroderma Foundation

National Tuberculosis Coalition of America. (NTCA)

National Viral Hepatitis Roundtable (NVHR)

National Youth Sports Health & Safety Institute

NC Public Health Association

Nevada Public Health Association

New York State Public Health Association

Ohio Public Health Association

Oregon Public Health Association

Pennsylvania Public Health Association

Physical Activity Alliance

Platelet Disorder Support Association

Prevent Blindness

Prevent Blindness Iowa

Prevent Blindness North Carolina

Prevent Blindness Ohio

Prevent Blindness Texas

Prevent Blindness Wisconsin

Prevention Institute

Project Sleep

Public Health Association of Nebraska

Pulmonary Hypertension Association

Restless Legs Syndrome Foundation

Safe States Alliance

SHAPE America - Society of Health and Physical Educators

SilverSneakers by Tivity Health

Sleep Research Society

Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America

Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine

Society for Public Health Education

South Carolina Public Health Association

South Dakota Public Health Association

Spina Bifida Association

Tennessee Public Health Association

The AIDS Institute

The Coalition of Skin Diseases

The National Pancreas Foundation

Trust for America's Health

U.S. Hereditary Angioedema Association

Utah Public Health Association

Vermont Public Health Association

Virginia Public Health Association

wAIHA Warriors

Wisconsin Public Health Association

Wyoming Public Health Association

Cc: The Honorable Mike Johnson

The Honorable Hakim Jeffries

The Honorable Charles Schumer

The Honorable Mitch McConnell

The Honorable Robert Aderholt

The Honorable Tammy Baldwin

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito