

IT'S TIME TO MAKE PUBLIC HEALTH FUNDING **A NATIONAL PRIORITY**

February 22, 2007

Dear Member of Congress:

The investment in disease prevention and health promotion for all Americans needs to grow, as our nation struggles with escalating health care costs, growing numbers of uninsured, and the prospect of declining health measured by overall morbidity and mortality. Over the past four years we have seen a decrease in that investment. The President's budget for FY 2008 continues to seriously underfund and undermine an important part of the solution: public health activities and programs.

While the final FY 2007 funding resolution provided needed increases to selected programs, most public health programs were held at FY 2006 funding levels. The undersigned organizations urge you to increase funding for public health through the Function 550/discretionary budget allocation in Fiscal Year 2008 by an amount that will restore funding cuts to public health programs enacted in FY 2006, and restore lost purchasing power. It is estimated that an additional \$4 billion, 7.8 percent, will be needed in FY 2008 to meet that goal and reverse the erosion of support for the continuum of biomedical, behavioral and health services research, community-based disease prevention and health promotion, basic and targeted services for the medically uninsured and those with disabilities, health professions education, and robust regulation of the nation's food and drug supply.

Our recommendation does not include, but rather is over and above, emergency funding requests.

To respond to this letter, please contact Dr. Marcia Mabee, Executive Director, Coalition for Health Funding: mmabee@ix.netcom.com; Voice – 703-709-3001; FAX – 703-709-3003; 11479 Waterview, Suite 200; Reston, VA 20190.

Sincerely,

Academy of General Dentistry
Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research
Administrators of Internal Medicine
Affymetrix, Inc.
AIDS Action Council
AIDS Alliance for Children, Youth & Families

Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine
Alliance for Aging Research
Alpha-1 Association
Alpha-1 Foundation
Alzheimer's Association
Ambulatory Pediatric Association
American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology
American Academy of Family Physicians
American Academy of HIV Medicine
American Academy of Neurology
American Academy of Nursing
American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons
American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry
American Academy of Pediatrics
American Academy of Physician Assistants
American Association for Cancer Research
American Association for Geriatric Psychiatry
American Association for Health Education
American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy
American Association for the Surgery of Trauma
American Association for Thoracic Surgery
American Association of Neurological Surgeons
American Diabetes Association
American Pain Foundation
American Society for Human Genetics
American Society for Pharmacology & Experimental Therapeutics
American Society for Reproductive Medicine
American Society of Pediatric Nephrology
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 Neurological Surgeons
American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities
American Brain Coalition
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network
American College of Clinical Pharmacology
American College of Clinical Pharmacy
American College of Emergency Medicine
American College of Medical Genetics
American College of Neuropsychopharmacology
American College of Nurse Practitioners
American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
American College of Physicians
American College of Preventive Medicine
American College of Surgeons
American Dance Therapy Association
American Dental Association
American Dental Education Association

American Dental Hygienists' Association
American Dietetic Association
American Federation for Medical Research
American Gastroenterological Association
American Geriatrics Society
American Heart Association
American Lung Association
American Medical Student Association
American Music Therapy Association
American Nephrology Nurses' Association
American Nurses Association
American Occupational Therapy Association
American Optometric Association
American Orthopaedic Association
American Osteopathic Association
American Pediatric Society
American Pharmacists Association
American Physical Therapy Association
American Physiological Society
American Podiatric Medical Association
American Psychiatric Association
American Psychological Association
American Public Health Association
American Radiological Nursing Association
American School Health Association
American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
American Society for Cell Biology
American Society for Microbiology
American Society of Clinical Oncology
American Society of Hematology
American Society of Nephrology
American Society of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology
American Society of Transplantation
American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene
American Sociological Association
American Telemedicine Association
American Thoracic Society
American Thoracic Society
American Trauma Society
Americans for Medical Progress
America's Blood Centers
amfAR, The Foundation for AIDS Research
Angioma Alliance
AO North America
Aplastic Anemia & MDS International Foundation
Arthritis Foundation
ASD Healthcare
Association for Clinical Research Training
Association for Prevention Teaching and Research

Association for Psychological Science
Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology
Association of Academic Health Centers
Association of Academic Physiatrists
Association of Air Medical Services
Association of American Medical Colleges
Association of American Physicians
Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges
Association of Chiropractic Colleges
Association of Departments of Family Medicine
Association of Family Medicine Residency Directors
Association of Independent Research Institutes
Association of Medical School Pediatric Department Chairs
Association of Medical School Pharmacology Chairs
Association of Minority Health Professions Schools
Association of Organ Procurement Organizations
Association of Population Centers
Association of Professors of Medicine
Association of Program Directors in Internal Medicine
Association of Public Health Laboratories
Association of Schools of Public Health
Association of Specialty Professors
Association of State and Territorial Health Officials
Association of University Centers on Disabilities
Association of University Professors of Neurology
Association of University Programs in Health Administration
Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses
Associations of Professors of Dermatology
Autism Society of America
Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law
Biophysical Society
Boston University School of Medicine
Boys Town National Research Hospital
Brain Injury Association of America
Brown University
Campaign for Medical Research
CARES Foundation, Inc.
Center for Emerging Technologies
Center for Science in the Public Interest
Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science
Child Neurology Society
Christopher Reeve Foundation
Clerkship Directors in Internal Medicine
Coalition for American Trauma Care
Coalition for Health Funding
Coalition for Health Services Research
Coalition for the Advancement of Health Through Behavioral and Social Sciences Research
Coalition to Protect Research
Coalition of Heritable Disorders of Connective Tissue

Coalition to Protect Research
Columbia University Medical Center
Commissioned Officers Association of the U.S. Public Health Service
Community Health Partnership: Oregon's Public Health Institute
Community HIV/AIDS Mobilization Project
Congress of Neurological Surgeons
Consortium of Social Science Associations
COPD Foundation
Council of Professional Associations on Federal Statistics
Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists
Critical Illness and Trauma Foundation
Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America
Cutaneous Lymphoma Foundation
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation
Digestive Disease National Coalition
Duke University Medical Center
Dystonia Medical Research Foundation
East Coast Greenway Alliance
Easter Seals
Epilepsy Foundation
ESA, Inc.
FAIR Foundation
Families USA
Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health
Friends of Cancer Research
Friends of NIDA
General Clinical Research Centers Program Directors Association
Genetic Alliance
Genetic Alliance BioBank
Genetics Society of Americas
Grifols, Inc.
Health and Wellness Department
Healthy Maine Walks Coalition
Hepatitis Foundation International
HETC Program Directors Coalition
HHT Foundation International
HIV Medicine Association
IDEA Health & Fitness Association
Infectious Diseases Society of America
Intermountain Injury Control Research Center
International Association of Medical Science Educators
International Foundation for Functional Gastrointestinal Disorders
International Myeloma Foundation
Johns Hopkins Institutions
Joint Steering Committee for Public Policy
Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation
Lance Armstrong Foundation
Lymphoma Research Foundation
March of Dimes Foundation

Matria Healthcare, Inc.
Mecklenburg Council on Health and Fitness
Medical Library Association/ Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries
Medicine-Pediatrics Program Directors Association
Meharry Medical College
Mental Health America
Mental Health Liaison Group
Morehouse School of Medicine
Mount Sinai Medical Center
Musculoskeletal Tumor Society
National Alliance for Eye and Vision Research
National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors
National Alliance on Mental Illness
National Alopecia Areata Foundation
National Area Health Education Centers Organization
National Association for Biomedical Research
National Association for Geriatric Education
National Association for Geriatric Education Centers
National Association for Public Health Statistics and Information Systems
National Association for Sport and Physical Education
National Association of Medical Minority Educators, Inc.
National Association of Children's Hospitals
National Association of Chronic Disease Directors
National Association of Community Health Centers
National Association of County and City Health Officials
National Association of County Behavioral Health and Developmental Disability Directors
National Association of Local Boards of Health
National Association of Social Workers
National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors
National Association of State Head Injury Administrators
National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors
National Black Church Initiative
National Caucus of Basic Biomedical Science Chairs
National Conference of Gerontological Nurse Practitioners
National Council for Diversity in the Health Professions
National Down Syndrome Society
National Eczema Association
National EMS Information System Technical Assistance Center
National Family Planning and Reproductive Health Association
National Gerontological Nursing Organization
National Health Council
National Hemophilia Foundation
National Kidney Foundation
National Marfan Foundation
National Marfan Foundation
National Network of Health Career Programs
National Organization for Rare Disorders
National Osteoporosis Foundation
National Primate Research Centers

National Psoriasis Foundation
National Recreation and Park Association
National Rural Health Association
National Rural Recruitment and Retention Network
National Sleep Foundation
National WIC Association
NBIA Disorders Association
NephCure Foundation
New York Coalition for Healthy School Foods
New York Stem Cell Foundation
North American Primary Care Research Group
NYU Hospitals
NYU School of Medicine
Oncology Nursing Society
OraSure Technologies, Inc.
Orthopaedic Trauma Association
Partners for a Healthy Nevada
Population Association of America
Produce for Better Health Foundation
Project Inform
Pulmonary Hypertension Association
PXE International
Research Institute for Independent Living
Research!America
SC Coalition for Promoting Physical Activity
Shock Society
Sjögren's Syndrome Foundation
Society for Adolescent Medicine
Society for Investigative Dermatology
Society for Neuroscience
Society for Pediatric Research
Society for Research in Child Development
Society for Women's Health Research
Society of General Internal Medicine
Society of Gynecologic Oncologists
Society of Hospital Medicine
Society of Teachers of Family Medicine
Society of Trauma Nurses
Spina Bifida Association
St. George's University School of Medicine
Steps to a Healthier New Orleans
Stony Brook University Medical Center
Suicide Prevention Action Network USA
SUNY Upstate Medical University, Syracuse
Teen Screen
The AIDS Institute
The American Geriatrics Society
The Cooper Institute
The Endocrine Society

The Gerontological Society of America
The Learning Disabilities Association of America
Therapeutic Communities of America
Title II Community AIDS National Network
Trauma Managers Association of California
Trust for America's Health
United States Water Fitness Association
University of Rochester
University of Washington
Washington State Association of Local Public Health Officials
Wound Ostomy and Continence Nurses Society
Yale University
YMCA of the USA