

CAMPAIGN FOR PUBLIC HEALTH

900 2nd STREET, NE • Suite 118 • WASHINGTON, DC 20002

PHONE 202.898.9060 • FAX 202.962.0226

May 15, 2007

The Honorable David Obey
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
US House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

PDF COPY: Individually addressed copies of this letter were hand delivered to several congressional offices on the 14th and 15th of May, 2007. See page 10 for a list of the offices that received the letter.

Dear Chairman Obey:

As the 110th Congress works to set funding levels across federal departments and agencies, the organizations listed below respectfully request that you make every effort to significantly increase the budget of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Our organizations support the professional judgment budget that the director of CDC recently submitted to the Committee that would provide \$7 billion to support the core CDC programs. The core programs include the discretionary funding of the agency's day-to-day operations and support the CDC's well-known health protection and disease prevention efforts. This move would bring the CDC's total budget, including mandatory funding, to, at a minimum, slightly more than \$10 billion in fiscal year 2008 (FY08).

While the grand total of the CDC's budget has grown in recent years, much of the agency's growth since FY02 is due to necessary increases within two budget lines. Specifically, mandatory spending on the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program *and* much-needed investments in terrorism preparedness efforts within the CDC have given the appearance of a well funded agency overall. Since FY05, however, core program budget lines have been cut (in nominal dollar terms) by \$223 million. President Bush recently proposed an *additional* cut below today's current funding level of \$274 million. The President's FY08 proposal would cut core programs by half a billion dollars below FY05 levels even *before* accounting for inflation.

When multi-year funding levels for core programs of the CDC are adjusted for inflation using the consumer price index, the challenges CDC faces in truly protecting our health are more apparent. Inflation consumed the gains these programs appear to have enjoyed between FY02 and FY05. After FY05 core program funding began a significant decline that has continued through the current budget year. The attached graph helps illustrate these points.

While the CDC's core program budget has been on the decline, the cost to the federal treasury of treating the ill has skyrocketed. In a report released in February 2007 by the Office of the Actuary at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, federal health care spending is expected to grow steadily at around 6.9 percent through 2016. This rate is 2.1 percent faster than the economy. Over that same time period, federal health spending will nearly double from \$2.1 billion to \$4.1 billion annually. CMS predicts that health care expenditures will consume a full 20 percent of our gross domestic product in 2016.

With these grim projections in our future, it is stunning that we currently invest so little in keeping Americans healthy. Of all federal health spending, less than 4 percent is spent on prevention efforts and only about 0.4 percent of all federal health spending is directed to the CDC. Clearly, we must do more.

In early March 2007, CDC director Dr. Julie Gerberding testified before the House Labor, Health and Human Services and Education Appropriations Subcommittee. At that hearing, Dr. Gerberding was asked to provide the Committee with her professional judgment regarding the funding level the agency needs to meet the future challenges facing public health. That response was sent to the Committee on April 20, 2007.

Dr. Gerberding's response to the Committee states that the agency should receive more than half a billion dollars over FY05 levels, or, "...our children may be the first generation in more than a century with a shorter expected lifespan than their parents." Later in the document, Dr. Gerberding explains that the growth of the CDC's budget since 2001 "masks the erosion of our discretionary resources for our urgent realities – chronic diseases, injury, infections, environmental health, occupational health, and disabilities – that affect Americans every day."

While we are not able to predict all of the public health issues that will impact this nation in the future, we do know that many of our current and future health care challenges can be alleviated through aggressive public health efforts. Such programs focus on preventing injury and illness, limiting the spread of disease and protecting the health of the public. It is unwise to neglect the CDC's budget now, as we will surely pay the price for this lack of vision in the future.

We respectfully ask you to consider the CDC's long-standing track record of protecting Americans from existing and emerging health threats as you work to fund this critical agency. CDC programs are an investment in reducing our population's exposure to preventable illness, injury, disability and death. It is also an investment in reducing the costs—human and financial—associated with threats to the health of the public.

We appreciate your leadership, and the many funding challenges you face as you address our nation's needs. Among those challenges, we urge you to provide the CDC with a significant budget increase that reflects the realities of our nation's need for stronger health protection and disease prevention efforts.

Sincerely,

Campaign for Public Health
317 Coalition
AAALAC International
AARP
AcademyHealth
Acadia Pharmaceuticals
Adams County Economic Development, Inc.
AdvaMed (Advanced Medical Technology
Association)

Advocates for EMS
Albert Einstein College of Medicine of
Yeshiva University
Allen Institute for Brain Science
Alliance for Aging Research
Alliance for Lupus Research
Alliance of Community Health Plans
Alnylam US, Inc.
Alpha-1 Foundation

Alzheimer's Association
 Ambulatory Pediatric Association
 America on the Move Foundation
 American Academy of Nurse Practitioners
 American Academy of Nursing
 American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry
 American Academy of Pediatrics
 American Association for Cancer Research
 American Association for Dental Research
 American Association for Health Education
 American Association for the Advancement
 of Science
 American Association for the Study of Liver
 Diseases
 American Association of Anatomists
 American Association of Clinical
 Endocrinologists
 American Association of Colleges of
 Osteopathic Medicine
 American Association of Colleges of
 Pharmacy
 American Association of Public Health
 Dentistry
 American Cancer Society
 American Cancer Society Cancer Action
 Network
 American Chemical Society
 American Chronic Pain Association
 American College Health Association
 American College of Cardiology
 American College of Chest Physicians
 American College of Emergency Physicians
 American College of Medical Genetics
 American College of Medical Toxicology
 American College of
 Neuropsychopharmacology
 American College of Occupational and
 Environmental Medicine
 American College of Preventive Medicine
 American College of Sports Medicine
 American College of Surgeons
 American Dental Association
 American Dental Education Association
 American Diabetes Association
 American Dietetic Association
 American Federation for Aging Research
 American Geriatrics Society
 American Heart Association
 American Institute for Medical and
 Biological Engineering
 American Institute for Stuttering
 American Lung Association
 American Medical Association
 American Medical Informatics Association
 American Pediatric Society
 American Psychiatric Association
 American Psychological Association
 American Public Health Association
 American Red Cross
 American School Health Association
 American Social Health Association
 American Society for Biochemistry and
 Molecular Biology
 American Society for Bone and Mineral
 Research
 American Society for Clinical Pathology
 American Society for Microbiology
 American Society for Nutrition
 American Society for Pharmacology and
 Experimental Therapeutics
 American Society for Virology
 American Society of Human Genetics
 American Society of Nephrology
 American Society of Tropical Medicine and
 Hygiene
 American Sociological Association
 American Transplant Foundation
 American Trauma Society
 American Veterinary Medical Association
 Americans for Medical Progress
 amFAR, The Foundation for AIDS Research
 Applied Biosystems, Inc.
 Arizona State University College of Nursing
 Arthritis Foundation
 Association for Clinical Research Training
 Association for Prevention Teaching and
 Research
 Association for Psychological Science
 Association for Research in Vision and
 Ophthalmology
 Association for the Accreditation of Human
 Research Protection Programs, Inc.

Association of Academic Health Centers
 Association of American Cancer Institutes
 Association of American Medical Colleges
 Association of American Physicians
 Association of American Veterinary
 Medical Colleges
 Association of Anatomy, Cell Biology and
 Neurobiology Chairpersons
 Association of Asian Pacific Community
 Health Organizations
 Association of Black Cardiologists
 Association of Chairs of Departments of
 Physiology
 Association of Independent Research
 Institutes
 Association of Medical School
 Microbiology and Immunology
 Chairs
 Association of Medical School
 Pharmacology Chairs
 Association of Minority Health Professions
 Schools, Inc.
 Association of Professors of Human and
 Medical Genetics
 Association of Professors of Medicine
 Association of Public Health Laboratories
 Association of Schools and Colleges of
 Optometry
 Association of Schools of Public Health
 Association of University Centers on
 Disabilities
 Association of State & Territorial Health
 Officials
 Assurant Health
 Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America
 AstraZeneca US
 Athena Diagnostics
 Aurora Economic Development Council
 Autism Society of America
 Baylor College of Medicine
 Baylor College of Medicine Graduate
 School of Biomedical Sciences
 Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
 Biophysical Society
 Biotechnology Industry Organization
 BloodCenter of Wisconsin, Inc.
 Boston University School of Dental
 Medicine
 Boston University School of Public Health
 Brigham and Women's Hospital
 Bristol-Myers Squibb Company
 Brown Medical School
 Buck Institute for Age Research
 Burns & Allen Research Institute
 Burrill & Company
 Burroughs Wellcome Fund
 California Biomedical Research Association
 California Institute of Technology
 Canon U.S. Life Sciences, Inc.
 Case Western Reserve University School of
 Dentistry
 Case Western Reserve University School of
 Medicine
 Center for Global Health and Medical
 Diplomacy
 Center for Infectious Disease Research &
 Policy, University of Minnesota
 Center for Science in the Public Interest
 Center for the Advancement of Health
 CFIDS Association of America
 Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and
 Science
 Charles River Laboratories
 Child & Adolescent Bipolar Foundation
 Children's Memorial Research Center
 Children's Neurobiological Solutions
 Foundation
 Children's Research Institute (Columbus)
 Children's Research Institute (Washington)
 City and County of Denver
 City of Commerce City, CO
 City of Hope National Medical Center
 City of Westminster, CO
 Clinical Research Forum
 Coalition for Health Services Research
 Coalition of National Health Education
 Organizations
 Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory
 Coleman Institute for Cognitive Disabilities,
 University of Colorado System
 Colfax Marathon Partnership, Inc.
 Colorado Bioscience Association

Colorado Office of Economic Development
and International Trade
Columbia University
Columbia University College of Dental
Medicine
Community Health Partnership
Conference of Boston Teaching Hospitals
Connecticut United for Research
Excellence, Inc.
Conquer Fragile X Foundation
Constella Group, LLC
Cooley's Anemia Foundation
Coriell Institute for Medical Research
Cornell University College of Veterinary
Medicine
Council of State and Territorial
Epidemiologists
Creighton University School of Medicine
CURE (Citizens United for Research in
Epilepsy)
Cure Alzheimer's Fund
Damon Runyon Cancer Research
Foundation
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
Dartmouth Medical School
DENTSPLY International
Diabetes Care Coalition
Digene Corporation
Directors of Health Promotion and
Education
Discovery Partners International
Doheny Eye Institute
Drexel University College of Medicine
Drexel University School of Public Health
Duke University Medical Center
Dystonia Medical Research Foundation
East Tennessee State University
James H. Quillen College of
Medicine
Eli Lilly and Company
Emory University Nell Hodgson Woodruff
School of Nursing
Emory University Rollins School of Public
Health
Emory University School of Medicine

Eta Sigma Gamma, the National
Professional Health Education Honor
Society
Every Child By Two
Fairfax County Economic Development
Authority
Families USA
FasterCures, The Center for Accelerating
Medical Solutions
Federation of American Societies for
Experimental Biology
Federation of State Medical Boards of the
United States, Inc.
Fitzsimons Redevelopment Authority
Ford Finance, Inc.
Forest Laboratories, Inc.
Fox Chase Cancer Center
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center
Friends of Cancer Research
Friends of the National Institute for Dental
and Craniofacial Research
Friends of the National Institute of Nursing
Research
Friends of the National Library of Medicine
GBS/CIDP Foundation International
GE Healthcare
Genetic Alliance
George Mason University
Georgetown University Medical Center
GlaxoSmithKline
Gynecologic Cancer Foundation
Harvard Medical School
Harvard School of Public Health
Harvard University School of Dental
Medicine
Heart Rhythm Society
Hereditary Disease Foundation
HHT Foundation International, Inc.
Home Safety Council
Howard University College of Dentistry
Howard University College of Medicine
IBM Life Sciences Division
Illinois State University Mennonite College
of Nursing
ImmunoGen, Inc.
Indiana University School of Medicine

Infectious Diseases Society of America
Institute for Systems Biology
Institute for the Advancement of
Multicultural and Minority Medicine
Intercultural Cancer Council Caucus
Invitrogen Corporation
Iron Disorders Institute
Jefferson Economic Council
Jeffrey Modell Foundation
Johnson & Johnson
Joint Commission on Accreditation of
Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO)
Keystone Symposia on Molecular and
Cellular Biology
KID Foundation
La Jolla Institute for Allergy and
Immunology
Los Angeles Biomedical Research Institute
at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center
Louisiana State University Health Sciences
Center
Louisiana State University HSC School of
Dentistry
Lovelace Respiratory Research Institute
Loyola University of Chicago Stritch School
of Medicine
Lupus Foundation of America, Inc.
Lymphatic Research Foundation
Mailman School of Public Health of
Columbia University
March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation
March of Dimes Foundation
Marine Biological Laboratory
Masonic Medical Research Laboratory
Massachusetts General Hospital
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Mayo Clinic
McLaughlin Research Institute
Medical College of Georgia
Medical University of South Carolina
MedStar Research Institute (MRI)
Meharry Medical College School of
Dentistry
Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center
Memory Pharmaceuticals
Mercer University

Metro Denver Economic Development
Corporation
Miami Children's Hospital
Morehouse School of Medicine
Mount Sinai Medical Center/School of
Medicine
National Alliance for Eye and Vision
Research
National Alliance for Hispanic Health
National Alliance for Research on
Schizophrenia and Depression
National Alliance of State and Territorial
AIDS Directors
National Alopecia Areata Foundation
National Association for Sport and Physical
Education
National Association of Chronic Disease
Directors
National Association of County and City
Health Officials
National Association of Hispanic Nurses
National Association of Local Boards of
Health
National Association of State EMS Officials
(NASEMSO)
National Caucus of Basic Biomedical
Science Chairs
National Coalition of STD Directors
National Down Syndrome Society
National Electrical Manufacturers
Association
National Emphysema/COPD Association
National Foundation for Ectodermal
Dysplasias
National Fragile X Foundation
National Health Council
National Hispanic Health Foundation
National Jewish Medical and Research
Center
National Kidney Foundation
National Marfan Foundation
National Minority AIDS Council
National Multiple Sclerosis Society
National Organization for Rare Disorders
National Osteoporosis Foundation
National Pharmaceutical Council

National Prostate Cancer Coalition
National Quality Forum
National Recreation and Park Association
National Safety Council
National Sleep Foundation
National TB Controllers Association
Nemours
New York Blood Center
New York College of Osteopathic Medicine
New York University College of Dentistry
New York-Presbyterian Hospital
North Carolina Association for Biomedical
Research
Northwest Association for Biomedical
Research
Northwestern University, The Feinberg
School of Medicine
Nova Southeastern University College of
Dental Medicine
Novartis Pharmaceuticals
NYU Institute of Community Health
and Research
Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation
Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery Foundation
Oral Health America
Oregon Health & Science University
Oregon Health & Science University School
of Dentistry
Oregon Research Institute
Oxford Bioscience Partners
Pacific Health Research Institute
Parent Project Muscular Dystrophy
Parkinson's Action Network
Parkinson's Disease Foundation
Partnership for Prevention
Pennsylvania Society for Biomedical
Research
Pfizer Inc
Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers
of America
Prevent Blindness America
PRIM&R, Public Responsibility in
Medicine & Research
Prostate Cancer Foundation
RAND Health
Research!America

Rice University
Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine
and Science
Salk Institute for Biological Studies
sanofi-aventis
Scleroderma Research Foundation
Sjogren's Syndrome Foundation, Inc.
Society for Advancement of Violence and
Injury Research (SAVIR)
Society for Neuroscience
Society for Pediatric Research
Society for Public Health Education
Society for Women's Health Research
Society of Gynecologic Oncologists
South Alabama Medical Science Foundation
South Dakota State University
Southeast Business Partnership
Southern Illinois University School of
Medicine
SPARC, The Scholarly Publishing &
Academic Resources Coalition
Spina Bifida Association of America
Stanford University School of Medicine
State University of New York at Buffalo
School of Dental Medicine
State University of New York Downstate
Medical Center College of Medicine
at Brooklyn
State University of New York Upstate
Medical University
Strategic Health Policy International, Inc.
Sudden Cardiac Arrest Association
Suicide Prevention Action Network-USA
Temple University School of Dentistry
Texas A&M University Health Science
Center
Texas Tech University Health Sciences
Center
The American Society for Cell Biology
The Arc of the United States
The Brody School of Medicine at East
Carolina University
The Critical Path Institute (C-Path)
The Food Allergy and Anaphylaxis Network
The Food Allergy Project, Inc.
The Forsyth Institute

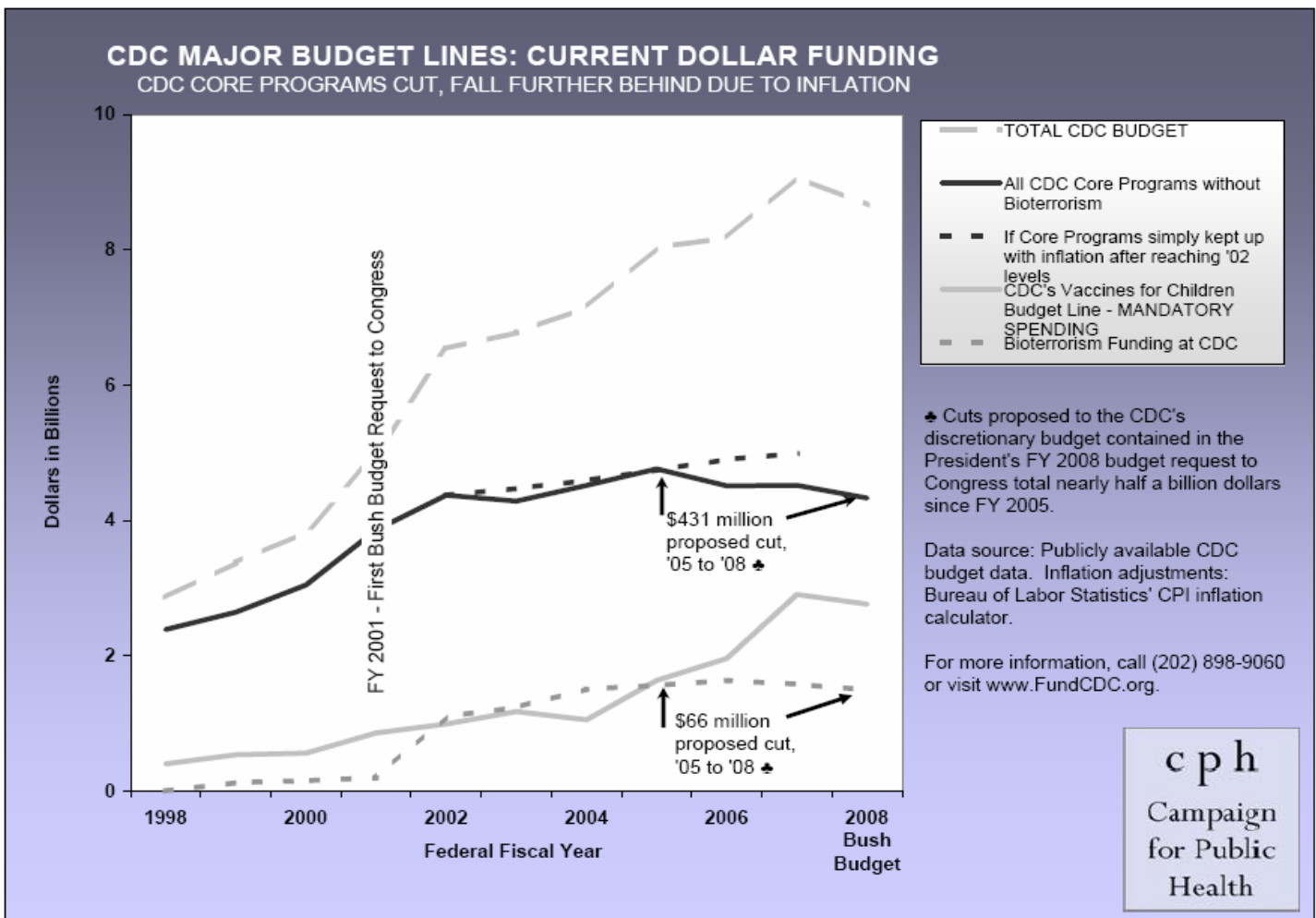
The Foundation Fighting Blindness	Dentistry
The George Washington University Medical Center	The University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center
The George Washington University School of Public Health and Health Services	The University of Oklahoma HSC College of Public Health
The J. David Gladstone Institutes	The University of Tennessee Health Science Center
The Jackson Laboratory	The University of Tennessee HSC College of Nursing
The Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health	The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine	The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio
The Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing	The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston School of Medicine
The LAM Foundation	The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center
The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society	Tourette Syndrome Association
The Medical College of Wisconsin	Trust for America's Health
The Medical Foundation, Inc.	Tufts University
The New Jersey Association for Biomedical Research	Tufts University School of Dental Medicine
The New York Stem Cell Foundation	Tulane University Health Sciences Center
The Ohio State University College of Dentistry	United Cerebral Palsy
The Ohio State University College of Medicine	University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Medicine
The Ohio State University College of Public Health	University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Nursing
The Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine	University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Public Health
The Research Foundation for Mental Hygiene, Inc.	University of Arizona College of Medicine
The Rockefeller University	University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
The Schepens Eye Research Institute	University of California, Berkeley
The Scientist	University of California, Berkeley School of Public Health
The Scripps Research Institute	University of California, Davis School of Medicine
The Smith-Kettlewell Eye Research Institute	University of California, Irvine School of Medicine
The Society for Investigative Dermatology	University of California, Los Angeles School of Medicine
The University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine	University of California, San Diego School of Medicine/Health Sciences
The University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine	University of California, San Francisco
The University of Iowa College of Dentistry	University of California, Systemwide
The University of Iowa College of Public Health	University of Cincinnati Medical Center
The University of Mississippi Medical Center	University of Colorado at Denver and
The University of Oklahoma College of	

Health Sciences Center
University of Colorado at Denver and HSC
School of Dentistry
University of Colorado at Denver and HSC
School of Nursing
University of Colorado System
University of Connecticut School of
Medicine
University of Florida
University of Florida College of Dentistry
University of Georgia
University of Illinois at Chicago College of
Dentistry
University of Illinois at Chicago College of
Medicine
University of Illinois at Chicago College of
Nursing
University of Kansas
University of Kansas Medical Center
University of Kansas Medical Center School
of Nursing
University of Kentucky
University of Kentucky College of Dentistry
University of Louisville
University of Louisville School of Dentistry
University of Maryland at Baltimore
University of Maryland at Baltimore School
of Nursing
University of Miami
University of Michigan
University of Michigan College of
Pharmacy
University of Michigan Medical School
University of Michigan School of Dentistry
University of Michigan School of Nursing
University of Michigan School of Public
Health
University of Minnesota School of Public
Health
University of Missouri at Kansas City
School of Dentistry
University of Montana School of Pharmacy
and Allied Health Sciences
University of Nebraska Medical Center
University of Nebraska Medical Center

College of Dentistry
University of Nebraska-Lincoln
University of Nevada, Las Vegas School of
Dental Medicine
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
School of Dentistry
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
School of Medicine
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
School of Public Health
University of North Dakota
University of North Texas Health Science
Center
University of Pennsylvania School of Dental
Medicine
University of Pennsylvania School of
Medicine
University of Pennsylvania School of
Nursing
University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of
Public Health
University of Pittsburgh School of Dental
Medicine
University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine
University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing
University of Rochester Medical Center
University of Rochester School of Nursing
University of South Carolina Office of
Research and Health Sciences
University of South Dakota School of
Medicine and Health Sciences
University of South Florida
University of South Florida College of
Nursing
University of Southern California School of
Dentistry
University of Utah HSC School of Medicine
University of Vermont College of Medicine
University of Washington School of
Medicine
University of Washington School of Nursing
University of Washington School of Public
Health and Community Medicine
Van Andel Research Institute
Vanderbilt University Medical Center
Vanderbilt University School of Nursing

Virginia Commonwealth University School of Dentistry
 Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine
 Wake Forest University School of Medicine
 Washington University in St. Louis Center for Health Policy
 Washington University in St. Louis School of Medicine
 Weill Medical College of Cornell University
 West Virginia University Health Sciences Center

West Virginia University School Of Dentistry
 Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research
 Wisconsin Association for Biomedical Research
 Wright State University School of Medicine
 X PRIZE Foundation Inc.
 Yale University School of Medicine
 Yale University School of Nursing
 YMCA of the USA
 YMCAs of New York State



NOTE: Individual letters sent to all members of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees. **Copies sent to:** Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi, House Minority Leader John A. Boehner, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, and Rob Portman, Director, Office of Management and Budget.