

# CAMPAIGN FOR PUBLIC HEALTH

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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 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> 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 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 EMS Officials  
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

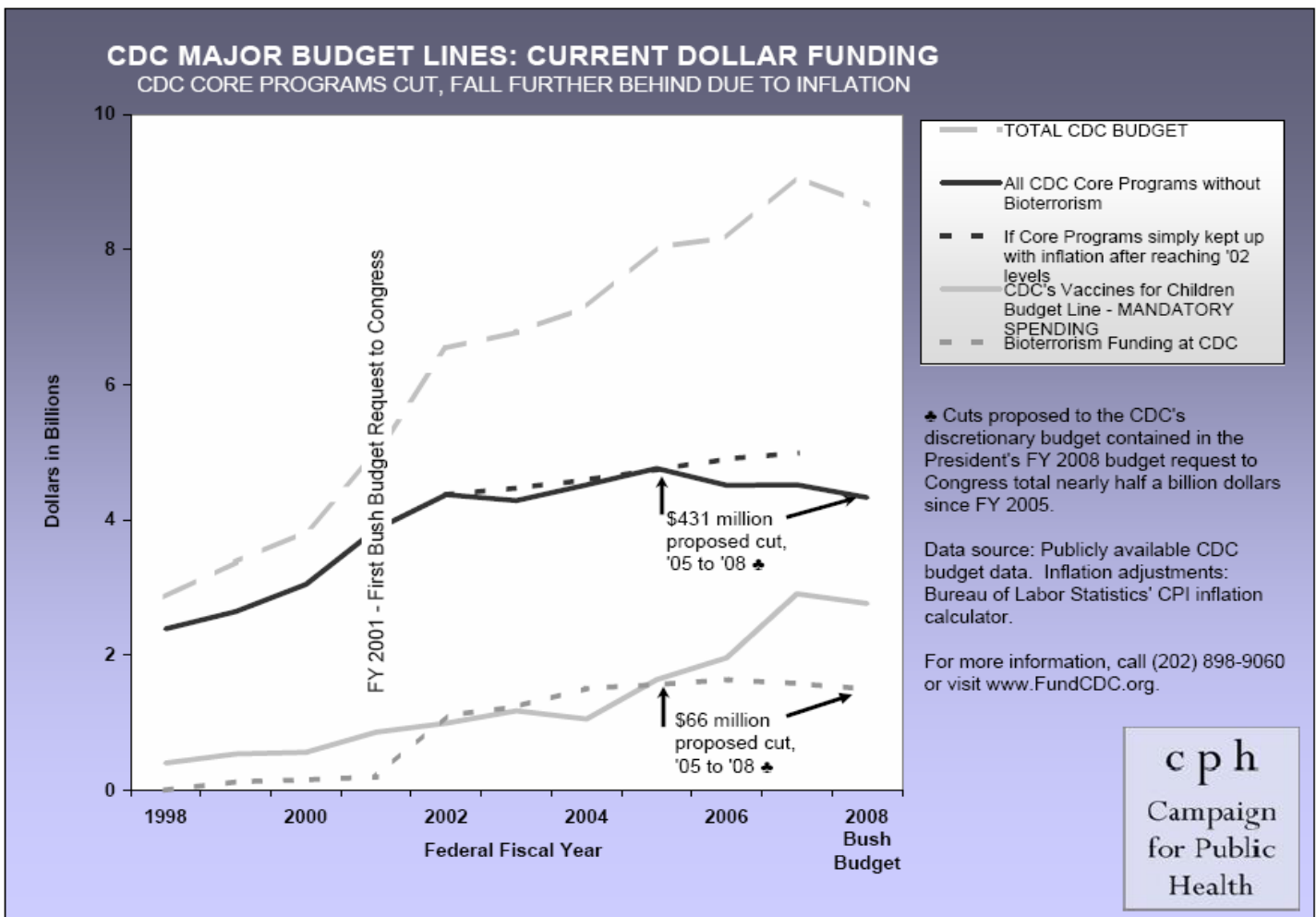
The Foundation Fighting Blindness  
 The George Washington University Medical Center  
 The George Washington University School of Public Health and Health Services  
 The J. David Gladstone Institutes  
 The Jackson Laboratory  
 The Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health  
 The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

University of Colorado at Denver and  
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.