

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

January 30, 2006

Dear President Bush and Members of Congress:

The health of all Americans is at risk from an unprecedented range of threats, including: chronic diseases and disabilities, infectious and food borne illnesses, biological and chemical terrorism, mental disorders and substance abuse, catastrophic injuries, and a shortage of healthcare providers and trained public health workers. And yet, last year, Congress cut public health programs by over \$1 billion, many of which continue to struggle to respond to sharply increased demands in the wake of the greatest natural disaster to strike the United States: Hurricane Katrina.

Consequently, the undersigned organizations urge you to increase funding for public health through the Function 550/discretionary budget allocation in Fiscal Year 2007 by an amount reflecting application of appropriate inflation factors to the final FY 2006 funding level plus \$1 billion. The rationale for this request is two-fold: 1) to maintain purchasing power for health programs; and 2) to restore funding for programs cut in the FY 2006 appropriations process and accommodate program initiatives to protect and strengthen our nation's health. Without additional resources on this scale, our nation's public health system – the continuum of medical research, prevention, treatment and training programs -- cannot respond adequately to the threats, challenges and opportunities facing the nation.

Our request does not include, but rather is over and above, the Administration's anticipated funding increase for pandemic flu preparedness in the FY 2007 budget request.

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
Advancement of Psychology
Administrators of Internal Medicine
AIDS Action Baltimore
AIDS Action in Mississippi
AIDS Alliance for Children, Youth & Families
AIDS Foundation of Chicago
AIDS Project Los Angeles
AIDS Survival Project
Allegheny-Singer Research Institute
Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine
Alliance for Children and Families
Alliance of Cardiovascular Professionals

Alliance of the American Dental Association
Alstrom Syndrome International
Alzheimer's Association
Ambulatory Pediatric Association
America Walks
American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology
American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
American Academy of Emergency Medicine
American Academy of Family Physicians
American Academy of HIV Medicine
American Academy of Neurology
American Academy of Nurse Practitioners

American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology
American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry
American Academy of Pediatrics
American Academy of Physician Assistants
American Association for Dental Research
American Association for Geriatric Psychiatry
American Association for Respiratory Care
American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases
American Association of Children's Residential Centers
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 Dental Consultants
American Association of Neurological Surgeons/
Congress of Neurological Surgeons
American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons
American Association of Orthodontists
American Association of Pastoral Counselors
American Association of Public Health Dentistry
American Brain Coalition
American Cancer Society
American College of Cardiology
American College of Clinical Pharmacy
American College of Dentists
American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
American College of Physicians
American College of Preventive Medicine
American College of Sports Medicine
American College of Surgeons
American College Health Association
American Dental Association
American Dental Education Association
American Dental Hygienists' Association
American Diabetes Association
American Dietetic Association
American Federation for Medical Research
American Geriatrics Society
American Group Psychotherapy Association
American Heart Association
American Hospital Association
American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering
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 Osteopathic Association
American Pediatric Society
American Physical Therapy Association
American Psychiatric Association
American Psychoanalytic Association
American Psychological Association
American Psychotherapy Association
American Public Health Association
American School Health Association
American Sickle Cell Anemia Association
American Social Health Association
American Society for Bone and Mineral Research
American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science
American Society for Microbiology
American Society for Pharmacology & Experimental Therapeutics
American Society of Hematology
American Society of Pediatric Nephrology
American Society of Plastic Surgeons
American Sociological Association
American Student Dental Association
American Thoracic Society
Americans for Medical Progress
America's Blood Centers
amfAR, The Foundation for AIDS Research
A O North America
APS Foundation of America, Inc.
Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum
Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology
Association for Psychological Science
Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology
Association of Academic Health Centers
Association of American Medical Colleges
Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges
Association of Clinical Research Training
Association of Departments of Family Medicine
Association of Family Medicine Residency Directors
Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors
Association of State and Territorial Health Officials
Association of Teachers of Preventive Medicine
Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs
Association of Medical School Pediatric Department Chairs
Association of Minority Health Professions Schools
Association of Nutrition Services Agencies
Association of Organ Procurement Organizations
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 University Centers on Disabilities

Association of Women's Health, Obstetrics and Neonatal Nurses
Association of Subspecialty Professors
Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America
Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law
BCCNS Life Support Network
Bienestar
Boston University School of Medicine
Boys Town National Research Hospital
Campaign for Public Health
Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids
Care Alliance Health Center
CARES Foundation, Inc.
Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine
Cedars-Sinai Medical Center
Center for Science in the Public Interest
Center for the Advancement of Health
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 the Advancement of Health Through Behavioral and Social Sciences Research
Coalition of Heritable Disorders of Connective Tissue
Columbia University Medical Center
Conference of Boston Teaching Hospitals
Consortium of Social Science Associations
Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs
Community Health Councils, Inc.
Community HIV/AIDS Mobilization Project
Cooley's Anemia Foundation
Cornell University
Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists
Creighton University
Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation
Developmental Disabilities Research Centers Association.
Digestive Disease National Coalition
Directors of Health Promotion and Health Education
Duke University Medical Center and Health System
Dystonia Medical Research Foundation
Eastern Association for the Surgery of Trauma
Emergency Nurses Association
Epilepsy Foundation
ESA, Inc.
Eta Sigma Gamma, the Professional Health Education Honor Society

Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology
Federation of Behavioral, Psychological, and Cognitive Sciences
Flint's Youth Violence Prevention Center
Friends of Indian Health
Gay Men's Health Crisis
General Clinical Research Centers Program
Directors Association
Genetic Alliance
Genetic Alliance BioBank
Genetics Society of America
Global Health Council
Gluten Intolerance Group of NA
GW Cancer Institute
Healthcare Association of New York State (HANYs)
Health Professions Network
Hemophilia Federation of America
Hepatitis Foundation International
Hermansky-Pudlak Syndrome Network Inc.
Hidradenitis Suppurativa Foundation, Inc
Hispanic-Serving Health Professions Schools
HIV Medicine Association
Housing Works
Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy Association
IEEE-USA
Infectious Diseases Society of America
International Foundation for Functional Gastrointestinal Disorders
IsoDentric 15 Exchange, Advocacy & Support
Jeffrey Modell Foundation
Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation International
Lymphoma Research Foundation
March of Dimes
Mayo Clinic
Medical College of Wisconsin
Medical Library Association / Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries
Medicine-Pediatrics Program Directors Association
Meharry Medical College
MLD Foundation
Morehouse School of Medicine
The Mount Sinai Medical Center
NAADAC- The Association for Addiction Professionals
National AHEC Organization
National Alliance for Eye and Vision Research
National Alliance for Thrombosis and Thrombophilia
National Alliance of State & Territorial AIDS Directors
National Alliance on Mental Illness
National Alopecia Areata Foundation
National Association for Sport and Physical Education

National Association of Children's Hospitals
 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 Emergency Medical Technicians
 National Association of Local Boards of Health
 National Association of Medical Minority Educators, Inc
 National Association of People with AIDS
 National Association of School Psychologists
 National Association of Social Workers
 National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Directors
 National Association of State EMS Officials
 National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors
 National Ataxia Foundation
 National Caucus of Basic Biomedical Science Chairs
 National Coalition for Osteoporosis and Related Bone Diseases
 National Coalition of STD Directors
 National Eczema Association for Science & Education
 National Family Planning and Reproductive Health Association
 National Health Care for the Homeless Council
 National Indian Health Board
 National League for Nursing
 National Lymphedema Network
 National Marfan Foundation
 National Mental Health Association
 National Mental Health Planning and Advisory Councils
 National Multiple Sclerosis Society
 National Organization of Vascular Anomalies
 National Osteoporosis Foundation
 National Psoriasis Foundation
 National Sleep Foundation
 National Student Nurses' Association
 National WIC Association
 NephCure Foundation
 Neurofibromatosis, Inc.
 Neuropathy Association
 Neuropathy Research Foundation
 North American Primary Care Research Group
 NYU School of Medicine
 Oncology Nursing Society
 Ovarian Cancer National Alliance
 Pancreatic Cancer Action Network
 Parkinsons Action Network
 Patient Services Incorporated
 Planned Parenthood
 Population Association of America/Association of Population Centers
 Preventive Cardiovascular Nurses Association
 Project Inform
 Propionic Acidemia Foundation
 Pulmonary Hypertension Association
 PXE International
 Research!America
 San Francisco AIDS Foundation
 Sexuality Information and Education Council of the United States
 Shape Up America!
 Shaping America's Health: Association for Weight Management and Obesity Prevention
 Sjögren's Syndrome Foundation
 Society for Investigative Dermatology
 Society for Neuroscience
 Society for Pediatric Research
 Society for Public Health Education
 Society for Research in Child Development
 Society for Women's Health Research
 Society of General Internal Medicine
 Society of Gynecologic Oncologists
 Society of Teachers of Family Medicine
 Society of Trauma Nurses
 Special Care Dentistry
 Spina Bifida Association of America
 Stanford University School of Medicine
 SUNY Upstate Medical University
 TeenScreen®
 The AIDS Institute
 The Endocrine Society
 The Gerontological Society of America
 The Protein Society
 The Title II Community AIDS National Network
 Trust for America's Health
 University of Chicago
 University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey-New Jersey Dental School
 University of Pennsylvania Health System
 University of Pittsburgh
 USA Section of the International College of Dentists
 WA State Association of Local Public Health Officials
 Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine
 YMCA of the USA