

COALITION *for* HEALTH FUNDING

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Washington, D.C. – Coalition for Health Funding Executive Director Angela Ostrom issued the following statement about emergency supplemental appropriations to respond to and prepare for the novel coronavirus (COVID-19):

The Coalition for Health Funding appreciates efforts of the administration and Congress to develop an emergency supplemental bill to provide the resources necessary to support research to better understand the virus, development of treatments including potential vaccines, and strengthen state, local, territorial and tribal public health capacity. We share the urgency of legislative leaders and the HHS Task Force that places a high priority in responding in a manner that safeguards our communities. **The Coalition for Health Funding urges the administration and Congress to ensure that funding for the emergency supplemental is *new* funding. Funding should not be offset by cuts or transfers from other health, research, or public health programs. Moreover, programs, projects, and activities that have already been cut by transfer authority should be replenished by the emergency supplemental appropriation bill.**

The Coalition and our members stand ready to work with Congress and the administration to support the swift development of an emergency supplemental bill that enables a robust response effort and one that does not cut funding from current critical programs.

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The Coalition for Health Funding is a nonprofit alliance working to preserve public health investments in the interest of all Americans. Our 94 member organizations together represent more than 100 million patients and consumers, health providers, professionals, and researchers.

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