

# COALITION *for* HEALTH FUNDING

May 12, 2020

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker  
United States House of Representatives

Dear Leader McConnell and Speaker Pelosi:

The Coalition for Health Funding (CHF), a nonprofit alliance working to preserve public health investments in the interest of all Americans, extends our appreciation to Congress for providing strong, bipartisan support of emergency supplemental appropriations for the COVID-19 pandemic response over the last two months. We applaud Congress for their leadership in these national recovery packages which addressed many critical public health and national economic needs.

As you develop the next phases of our nation's response and recovery to the pandemic, we urge you to include the many needs identified by the public health community as part of emergency appropriations. Our 92 member organizations—who together represent more than 100 million patients and consumers, health providers, professionals, and researchers—identified areas that are critical to the COVID-19 response and require congressional action. These priorities include, but are not limited to, investments in federal biomedical and healthcare research agencies and programs; funding for our nation's public health infrastructure and programs to support testing, contact tracing, laboratory capacity, and other preparedness and response needs; and emergency funding needs to assure that our health care system and federal research enterprise emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic stronger, more resilient, and better equipped for the next major health threat.

CHF strongly believes that as part of COVID-19 response and recovery, the next phase of funding should be designated as emergency and not offset by cuts to non-defense discretionary funding that would endanger our continued and future pandemic response.

As always, the Coalition and our members stand ready to support Congress and attached is our member contact information. We strongly encourage you to reach out to our membership to learn more about their priorities for the upcoming emergency supplemental bill. For any assistance or follow-up, you may also reach me at [aostrom@dc-crd.com](mailto:aostrom@dc-crd.com) or (202) 271-8963.

Sincerely,

Angela M. Ostrom  
Executive Director

cc: The Honorable Roy Blunt, Chair, Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies  
The Honorable Patty Murray, Ranking Member, Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies  
The Honorable Rosa DeLauro, Chair, House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies  
The Honorable Tom Cole, Ranking Member, House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies