

# COALITION *for* HEALTH FUNDING

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Washington, D.C. – Coalition for Health Funding Executive Director Emily Holubowich issued the following statement about the administration’s emergency supplemental appropriations request to address the humanitarian crisis at the U.S.-Mexico border:

*Continued reports about the substandard conditions and shortages of basic supplies at temporary shelters for unaccompanied migrant children held in government custody necessitate an immediate response by the federal government. The short and long-term effects of such adverse childhood events (ACEs) are supported by a robust body of scientific evidence, and include but aren’t limited to alcoholism and substance misuse, depression, suicide, poor physical health, chronic disease, Alzheimer’s Disease and ultimately, a harder and shorter life.*

*The situation at the border is a public health crisis, and emergency supplemental funding is needed to protect migrant children and their families. Equally important is congressional oversight of that humanitarian aid and the activities it is intended to support. Any new funding appropriated by Congress to the administration should include safeguards to prioritize the health, safety, and well-being of children and families.*

*Article I, Section 9 of the U.S. Constitution confers upon Congress the “power of the purse,” and with that power, oversight authority of the administration’s spending. The Coalition for Health Funding urges Congress to quickly appropriate funding, and at the same time exercise its constitutional authority to hold the administration accountable by blocking policies that may inflict more harm, compelling the administration to act in the best interest of the families, and penalizing the administration if it doesn’t comply.*

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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 95 member organizations together represent more than 100 million patients and consumers, health providers, professionals, and researchers.

<http://www.publichealthfunding.org>