COALITION for HEALTH FUNDING

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 14, 2023 Contact: Erin Will Morton, <u>emorton@dc-crd.com</u>

Washington, D.C.— The Coalition for Health Funding issues the following statement denouncing the House majority's catastrophic spending cuts for fiscal year 2024 in the Labor-Health and Human Services bill.

The <u>Coalition for Health Funding</u>, an alliance of 84 nonprofit organizations working to promote strong investments in the public health continuum, expresses its strong opposition to the allocated funding levels in the House majority's Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies (Labor-HHS) funding bill.

The proposed funding levels in the House majority's Labor-HHS bill would devastate America's public health infrastructure while also scaling back important research investments for next generation cures. Cutting health funding will reduce or eliminate services that are essential to safeguarding the health and well-being of our communities. These services enable us to respond to emerging health threats, provide preventive care, and ensure access to critical health services for vulnerable populations.

The proposed 28% cut below 2023 levels would result in:

- A 14% cut to the Department of Health and Human Services.
- Elimination of the Agency for Healthcare Research Quality.
- Severe cuts to the CDC, risking our ability to respond to current and future health challenges.
- Eliminated funding for critical programs like the CDC's Office on Smoking and Health program, and HRSA's Healthy Start program.
- Deep cuts for the National Institutes of Health and Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H), putting lifesaving biomedical advancements at risk.

Funding cuts to health programs put the health and well-being of all Americans at serious risk. The American people deserve a robust and resilient public health infrastructure that is adequately funded to protect and promote their health.

The Coalition for Health Funding urges policymakers to build on the investments made in FY 2023 and set funding for a bicameral, bipartisan FY 2024 Labor-HHS bill at a level that meets the needs of our health system. We look forward to working with the Senate to achieve a higher funding level that will adequately support our public health agencies at the levels they need.

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The Coalition for Health Funding includes <u>84 organizations</u>. It is the oldest and largest nonprofit alliance dedicated to sustained public health funding to strengthen overall public health infrastructure.