COALITION for HEALTH FUNDING

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Erin Morton, Coalition for Health Funding

E-mail: emorton@dc-crd.com

Washington, D.C.—The Coalition for Health Funding issues the following statement:

The Coalition for Health Funding, an alliance of 86 nonprofit organizations working to promote strong investments in the public health continuum, was pleased to see the final House Rules package exclude explicit provisions guaranteeing decreased FY 2024 spending on critical federal investments in biomedical research and public health. Access to affordable, quality health care and public health services is a priority for this country. The Coalition stands with all Americans in demanding that adequate resources are dedicated to preserving the public health and heath research infrastructure on which we all depend.

We remain concerned about reports of a closed-door agreement that could force draconian cuts to public health programs in FY 2024. We continue to <u>call for broad transparency</u> of the agreement so that its impact on our nation's public health and health research infrastructure can be understood. Broad cuts would be devastating and have profound negative consequences for the American people.

We urge Congress to work in a bipartisan, bicameral fashion to deliver on Americans' need for strong public health services and affordable access to coverage. We look forward to working with the House and the Senate to chart a path forward on the FY 2024 Labor-HHS appropriations process that protects Americans from future pandemics while ensuring growing access to basic public health services. Robust funding for essential health programs across the Department of Health and Human Services is an essential part of our national security and cannot be seen as separate and distinct from other spending related to the safety and wellbeing of Americans.

The Coalition stands ready and willing to work with all Members of Congress to advance our common goal of ensuring strong and sustained funding for a continuum of biomedical, behavioral, social, and health services research; community-based prevention strategies; health care services for the medically underserved; and education of a robust health professions workforce.

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The Coalition for Health Funding includes <u>86 organizations</u>. It is the oldest and largest nonprofit alliance dedicated to sustained public health funding to strengthen overall public health infrastructure.