

COALITION *for* HEALTH FUNDING

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Erin Will Morton, emorton@dc-crd.com

Washington, D.C.— The Coalition for Health Funding issues the following statement regarding the Senate Labor-Health and Human Services bill for fiscal year 2024.

The [Coalition for Health Funding](#), an alliance of 84 nonprofit organizations working to promote strong investments in the public health continuum, remains concerned that our nation's health is not a top priority for Congress. We are grateful that the Senate worked in a bipartisan manner and increased funding in its Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies (Labor-HHS) funding bill; however these investments must be further strengthened if we really want to make an impact and improve America's ailing health.

Every agency within HHS has a unique mission to prepare for, and respond to, our nation's health demands and needs annual sustained funding increases—not cuts or level funding—to protect the health of all Americans. Each health agency—Administration for Community Living, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Food and Drug Administration, Health Resources and Services Administration, Indian Health Services, National Institutes of Health, and Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration— is interconnected and plays an essential role in the nation's health.

These agencies enable us to respond to emerging health threats, fund essential health research, provide preventive care, and ensure access to critical health services for vulnerable populations. Cuts to our nation's health programs puts the health and well-being of all Americans at serious risk and limiting spending with arbitrary caps fails to account for inflation, population growth, and increasing health care costs.

The fact that this year's appropriations process is bound by funding caps agreed to as part of the Fiscal Responsibility Act has made it impossible for appropriators to adequately fund our nation's public health infrastructure resulting in possible cuts to essential services that are vital to the health and well-being of our communities.

The Coalition for Health Funding urges policymakers to work together to develop an FY 2024 Labor-HHS bill that adequately invests in our health system and avoids a catastrophic government shutdown that would further strain our public health infrastructure. The American people deserve a robust and resilient public health infrastructure that is adequately funded to protect and promote their health.

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The Coalition for Health Funding includes [84 organizations](#). It is the oldest and largest nonprofit alliance dedicated to sustained public health funding to strengthen overall public health infrastructure.