

COALITION *for* HEALTH FUNDING

Statement on FY 2022 Omnibus Appropriations

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Coalition praises perseverance to pass omnibus; calls out underinvestment in public health

WASHINGTON, DC – The Coalition for Health Funding issues the following statement regarding the House passage of the Fiscal Year 2022 Omnibus Appropriations bill:

The Coalition for Health Funding (CHF) commends the bicameral, bipartisan leadership of the appropriations committees and Congress for reaching an agreement on the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022. This ends the immediate reliance on continuing resolutions, which are detrimental to our essential public health programs. After two-years of unprecedented public health challenges, sustained, predictable investment in this nation's public health infrastructure is crucial.

CHF appreciates the increases for the health agencies and bipartisan effort to advance this bill thanks to the perseverance of leadership. However, we note that many of the increases included in both the House and Senate versions of the bill were either not included in the final omnibus or were significantly reduced. We are disappointed that greater investments were not made in critical public health programs. We have witnessed the tragic result of chronic underfunding of our public health infrastructure in the country's struggles to mount a coordinated response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Now, more than ever, we call on Congress to ensure that all agencies across the public health continuum have the funding increases they need to meet the needs of Americans. The nation's public health infrastructure does not exist in a silo, and each component is as important as the next. All the HHS agencies—CDC, NIH, HRSA, SAMHSA, CMS, IHS, and AHRQ—play a role in maintaining the health and wellbeing of Americans.

As Congress begins work on FY 2023 Labor-HHS appropriations, CHF strongly encourages a robust investment in public health programs be made to support strong public health systems and to meet the health needs of the country. CHF looks forward to working with Congress to accomplish this on behalf of all Americans.

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The Coalition for Health Funding works to preserve public health investments in the interest of all Americans. Our 81 member organizations together represent more than 100 million patients and consumers, health providers, professionals, and researchers.