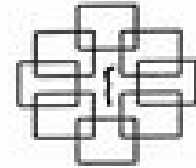


# COALITION FOR HEALTH FUNDING



Emily J. Holubowich, MPP, Executive Director

December 14, 2009

The Honorable David Obey  
Chairman  
Labor-HHS-Education Subcommittee  
on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Tom Harkin  
Chairman  
Labor-HHS-Education Subcommittee  
on Appropriations  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Todd Tiahrt  
Ranking Member  
Labor-HHS-Education Subcommittee  
on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Thad Cochran  
Ranking Member  
Labor-HHS-Education Subcommittee  
on Appropriations  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Obey, Chairman Harkin and Senator Cochran and Representative Tiahrt:

The Coalition for Health Funding thanks you for your leadership in securing much needed funding increases for agencies of the Public Health Service in the Consolidated FY 2010 Appropriations Act. With the funding increases provided, these agencies— including the National Institutes of Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Health Resources and Services Administration, Indian Health Service, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, among others— will be better positioned to meet the growing health needs of the American people. We also thank you for concluding action on funding for these programs this calendar year.

In these complex economic times, we greatly appreciate your recognition of the value of biomedical, behavioral and health services research; community-based prevention activities; support for those living with disabilities; access to basic and targeted healthcare services for the medically uninsured; education of a broad array of health professionals; and regulation of drugs, medical devices and food safety. Only with a sustained, stable investment in the public health continuum will our nation have a chance to build the capacity to achieve health reform's promise of improved health care quality and access for all Americans.

Thank you for your support for these critical activities and programs.

Sincerely,

Julio C. Abreu  
President

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