

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

March 25, 2026

The Honorable Robert Aderholt
Chair
Subcommittee on Labor, HHS,
Education and Related Agencies
2358-B Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Labor, HHS,
Education and Related Agencies
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chair Aderholt and Ranking Member DeLauro:

As you work on the Fiscal Year (FY) 2027 appropriations process, we write to respectfully request that you provide at least \$11.581 billion for Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) programs. These science-based, data-driven activities are critical to protecting the health of all of our communities and deserve greater sustained support to address the many ongoing public health challenges we face.

CDC is the backbone of the United States public health system, with a mission to work “24/7 to protect America from health, safety and security threats, both foreign and in the U.S.”¹ Through CDC, resources reach local, state, territorial, and tribal public health agencies and support their life-saving work in communities across our nation. Establishing and maintaining solid public health systems allows health departments to prevent, respond to, and recover from events and reduce human and financial tolls. We must provide stable, sufficient public health preparedness funding to allow our state and local health departments to maintain a standing set of core capabilities, so they are ready when needed, regardless of the next challenge or threat.

The investment we request would help support a variety of public health imperatives, such as:

1. Defending against infectious disease. CDC has worked to protect people from viruses like COVID-19, influenza, human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), measles, rabies, Ebola, and Mpox; bacteria that are resistant to antibiotics like methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) and *C. difficile*; and countless other infectious diseases. These efforts include using advanced molecular detection to track outbreaks, helping health departments effectively use surveillance data, funding school-based health education programs, and investing in disease intervention specialists.
2. Preventing chronic disease. Chronic diseases represent seven of the 10 leading causes of death,² and are the leading causes of the nation’s \$4.5 trillion in annual health care costs.³ It is also important to note that infectious and non-communicable diseases are inextricably linked, and that CDC plays a critical role in working with state and local partners to address the leading causes of death. Many of these diseases can be prevented by eating well; being physically active; avoiding tobacco, excessive drinking, and injury; and getting regular health screenings. CDC collects data on chronic diseases and their risk factors to inform prevention and control, studies interventions and supports communities in implementing them, and provides resources to educate communities on how to reduce risk factors. CDC’s Tips from Former Smokers campaign has helped one million people quit smoking, over 800,000 people have participated in the National Diabetes Prevention Program, and the National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program has served more than 6.2 million women.⁴ CDC grants also

¹ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, <https://www.cdc.gov/about/cdc/index.html>

² Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/fastats/leading-causes-of-death.htm>

³ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, <https://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/about/index.html>

help states increase the number of students who consume nutritious foods, design communities to make physical activity safer and more convenient, and expand and sustain education programs.

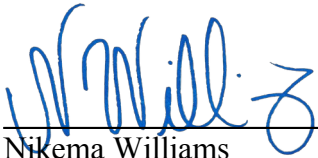
3. Protecting against environmental hazards. CDC prevents illness and death related to environmental hazards, researches the effects of the environment on health, surveils environment-related health problems, and prepares and responds to environmental emergencies. The National Center for Environmental Health (NCEH) is providing support related to the health impact of chemicals at the East Palestine, Ohio train derailment site by providing guidance to health providers and the public who have been impacted. Recent accomplishments also include confirming higher per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) exposures in communities near military bases, improving our understanding of potential links between pesticide exposures and children's behavior, and identifying contaminants in fish from the Great Lakes. Funding from CDC's NCEH also supports state and local asthma control plans, childhood lead poisoning prevention activities, environmental health tracking, safe water programs, and more. CDC's environmental health efforts also span cruise ship sanitation, foodborne illness, radiation, mold, climate adaptation, natural disasters and severe weather, chemical weapons elimination, and air quality.
4. Preventing injuries and violence. CDC researches, employs, and funds strategies to prevent injuries, the leading cause of death for individuals between one and 45 years old. For example, the Domestic Violence Prevention Enhancement and Leadership Through Alliances Impact program funds state coalitions and local communities to reduce intimate partner violence. CDC also has played a leading role in addressing the opioid and drug overdose epidemics through research, monitoring, and funding and support for state and local response and prevention activities, such as the Drug-Free Communities program which supports community coalitions that reduce youth substance use. Youth Violence Prevention Centers have demonstrated success through innovative interventions such as mowing and planting community gardens on vacant properties, cultivating positive racial identity, and supporting parents in disadvantaged neighborhoods. CDC also works to prevent dozens of other injuries such as suicide, child abuse and neglect, traumatic brain injury, older adult falls, burns, drowning, and motor vehicle accidents.
5. Strengthening public health infrastructure. The nation's public health infrastructure has been long neglected, leading to archaic technologies and a depleted workforce across the country that threatens our ability to respond quickly to public health emergencies like COVID-19. CDC's Public Health Infrastructure and Capacity funding line, established in FY22, provides flexible funding to strengthen core public health infrastructure and capacity at all levels of government, improving the ability of public health agencies to protect our communities from the many health threats we face. CDC's Public Health Workforce and Career Development program helps to ensure the nation has a strong and well-trained workforce. Epidemiologists, laboratory scientists, community health workers, contract tracers, data analysts, and other professionals play a critical role in responding to the current pandemic. This program is essential to develop the next generation of public health workers, so we are better prepared for future public health emergencies. CDC's Public Health Data Modernization Initiative is helping to build world-class data infrastructure at all levels and ensuring all systems can communicate and share data seamlessly with one another.

These represent just a small sample of the countless CDC programs that safeguard and improve our constituents' lives and provide critical resources to support the essential work of our state, territorial, local,

⁴ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, https://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/impact/?CDC_AAref_Val=https://www.cdc.gov/chronicdisease/programs-impact/impacts.htm

and tribal public health agencies. Members of Congress have traditionally supported a wide variety of programs within CDC, each with its own merits, but the agency remains woefully underfunded. While we all recognize that the fiscal climate presents challenges, the cost of unmitigated disease is far greater than that of investments in prevention and response. Again, we urge you to provide at least \$11.581 billion for CDC in FY2027 – a level also supported by over 100 organizations representing public health workers, researchers, clinicians, educators, and patients. Now, more than ever, it is critical to have a strong and modern national public health surveillance system that detects and facilitates immediate response to, and containment of, emerging health threats. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

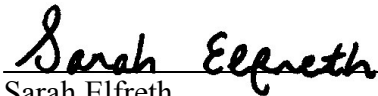
Sincerely,



Nikema Williams
Member of Congress



Andrew R. Garbarino
Member of Congress



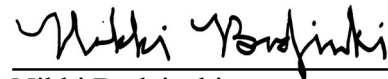
Sarah Elfreth
Member of Congress



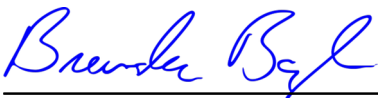
Sharice L. Davids
Member of Congress



Lizzie Fletcher
Member of Congress



Nikki Budzinski
Member of Congress



Brendan F. Boyle
Member of Congress



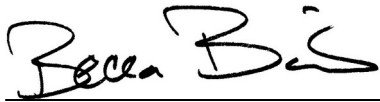
Rashida Tlaib
Member of Congress



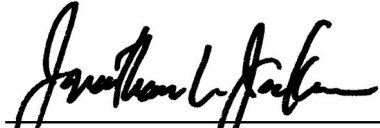
Val Hoyle
Member of Congress



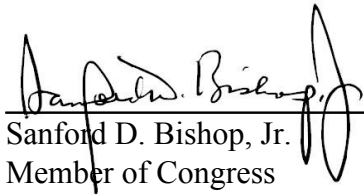
Marilyn Strickland
Member of Congress



Becca Balint
Member of Congress



Jonathan L. Jackson
Member of Congress



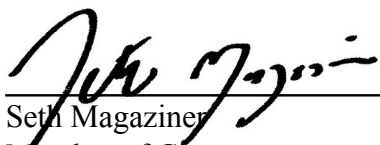
Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.
Member of Congress




Terri A. Sewell
Member of Congress



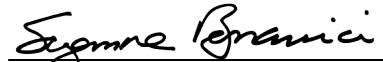
Steve Cohen
Member of Congress



Seth Magaziner
Member of Congress



Wesley Bell
Member of Congress



Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress



Richard E. Neal
Member of Congress



Lateefah Simon
Member of Congress



Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress



Dan Goldman
Member of Congress



Ilhan Omar
Member of Congress



Greg Casar
Member of Congress



Frederica S. Wilson
Member of Congress



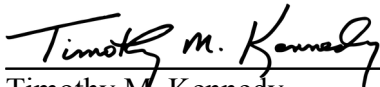
Julie Johnson
Member of Congress



Raja Krishnamoorthi
Member of Congress



Donald S. Beyer Jr.
Member of Congress



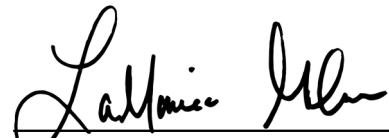
Timothy M. Kennedy
Member of Congress



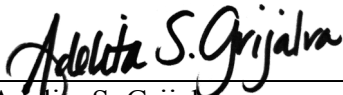
David Scott
Member of Congress



Lucy McBath
Member of Congress



LaMonica McIver
Member of Congress



Adelta S. Grijalva
Member of Congress



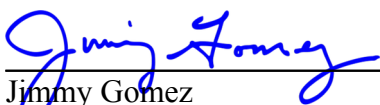
Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress



Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.
Member of Congress



Valerie P. Foushee
Member of Congress



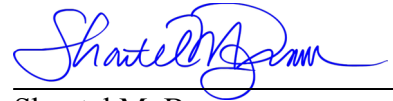
Jimmy Gomez
Member of Congress



George Latimer
Member of Congress



Jake Auchincloss
Member of Congress



Shontel M. Brown
Member of Congress



Patrick Ryan
Member of Congress



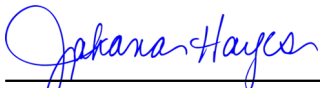
Haley M. Stevens
Member of Congress



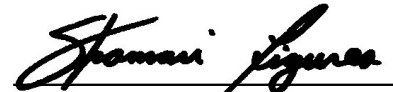
Ritchie Torres
Member of Congress



Thomas R. Suozzi
Member of Congress



Jahana Hayes
Member of Congress



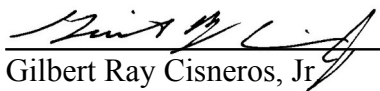
Shomari Figures
Member of Congress



Sarah McBride
Member of Congress



Bill Foster
Member of Congress



Gilbert Ray Cisneros, Jr.
Member of Congress



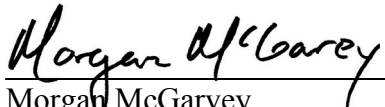
Sean Casten
Member of Congress





Mark Takano
Member of Congress

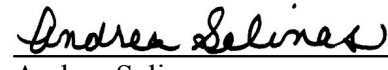



Chris Deluzio
Member of Congress

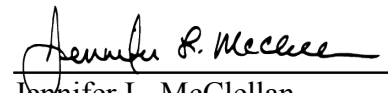

Morgan McGarvey
Member of Congress


Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress



Jared Moskowitz
Member of Congress

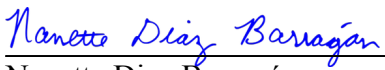

Andrea Salinas
Member of Congress

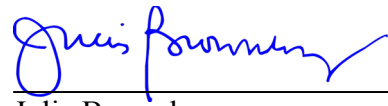

Donald Norcross
Member of Congress



Jennifer L. McClellan
Member of Congress

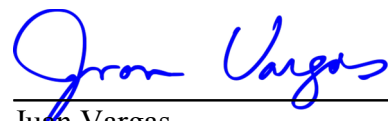

Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez
Member of Congress


Chris Pappas
Member of Congress

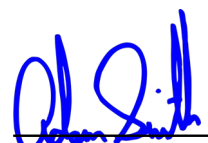

Nanette Diaz Barragán
Member of Congress

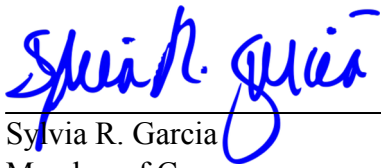

Julia Brownley
Member of Congress


Maxine Dexter
Member of Congress


Juan Vargas
Member of Congress


Andre Carson
Member of Congress

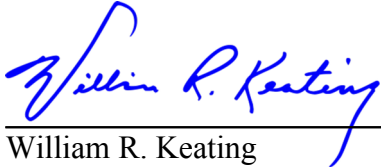

Adam Smith
Member of Congress

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sylvia R. Garcia". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped "G" at the end.

Sylvia R. Garcia
Member of Congress

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gabe Amo". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped "A" at the end.

Gabe Amo
Member of Congress

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "William R. Keating". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped "K" at the end.

William R. Keating
Member of Congress