



COALITION *for*
HEALTH FUNDING



May 10, 2022

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Richard Shelby
Vice Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Chair
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Leahy, Chair DeLauro, Vice Chairman Shelby, and Ranking Member Granger:

The 369 undersigned organizations—representing the full range of stakeholders supporting the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services (HHS), and Education and Related Agencies appropriations bill—thank you for your leadership in supporting families and communities by enacting earlier COVID-19 relief funding and funding for ongoing programs for FY 2022. We urge you to build on those investments by supporting a significant increase in the FY 2023 allocation for the Labor-HHS-Education Subcommittee that ensures the robust, sustained, and predictable investments that these programs require.

The programs and services funded by the Labor-HHS-Education Subcommittee have a profound impact on health and well-being, child development, educational and skills attainment, and productivity, yet they have been shortchanged in the appropriations process since spending caps were enacted in 2011. We recommend an allocation of at least \$239.59 billion to address the gaps created from years of underfunding these essential programs. The need for these key investments has only grown over time, leaving important services and activities underfunded by billions of dollars, ultimately undermining the future strength, economic development, and security of our nation.

The COVID-19 emergency funding Congress enacted helped to address new costs and needs caused by the pandemic on a short-term basis. However, these services face a funding cliff as that funding is spent. We need sustained annual increases across the Labor-HHS-Education programs to address long-standing needs that existed before the pandemic, and these increases cannot come at the expense of other programs within the bill. The programs in the Labor-HHS-Education bill strengthen the nation by improving Americans' lives and meeting basic needs for a broad range of constituencies. The effects of chronic underfunding have impacted programs that support education, public health, health research, job training, and social services. The effects include:

- Serving 1.5 million fewer low-income people through the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) in 2018 than in 2010, despite growing need, because funding was reduced from \$5.1 billion to \$3.7 billion over this period (and cut 40.6 [percent](#) from FY 2010 to FY 2022, adjusted for inflation).

- Eroding the public health and research infrastructure and workforce, limiting our ability to address disease prevention, respond to the COVID-19 crisis, and monitor ongoing health trends for new and emerging threats.
- Hindering efforts to address learning loss and opportunity gaps created by the pandemic, to raise student achievement, and to increase high school graduation rates, college affordability, and college completion.
- Leaving far too many low-income children without access to high quality preschool and other early learning opportunities.
- Providing child care to only one in nine eligible children under age 6, with child care providers paid so little that one in four early childhood educators take second jobs to make ends meet.
- Hindering workers' access to the skills, training, and education necessary to access the jobs for which employers are currently hiring.
- Preventing almost one million people from accessing the critical workforce and job training services that Congress overwhelmingly authorized in 2014. The U.S. invests less than every other industrialized country in active labor market policy, except for Mexico and Chile, and would need to invest \$80 billion annually just to reach the median of our international peers.
- Ignoring the needs of individuals who find themselves without a high school credential and who need a pathway back to education, employment, and active citizenship.
- Providing inadequate resources to deal with the substance use disorder crisis.
- While starting to reverse Maternal and Child Health Block Grant funding losses, FY 2022 funding remains 10 percent below the levels in FY 2010 when taking inflation into account.
- Failing to keep pace with growing child welfare needs, especially as communities grapple with the destructive impact of substance use disorders on families. Child Welfare Services funding, for example, was cut [24 percent](#) from FY 2010 to FY 2022, adjusted for inflation.

Without a substantial increase in the Subcommittee's allocation, it will be impossible to support all of the essential programs in the Labor-HHS-Education bill at the levels needed to invest appropriately across key priorities, including public health infrastructure; emergency preparedness and infectious disease surveillance; disease prevention and management; health research; efforts to reduce maternal mortality rates among women of color; overcoming disruptions in learning disproportionately affecting students of color, with disabilities, and with low incomes; continuing to improve college affordability and completion; responding to the opioid epidemic; improving mental health services; and achieving the intended innovation of the bipartisan Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act.

In order to provide an adequate increase for Labor-HHS-Education services, there must be a robust increase in the total allocated for non-defense discretionary (NDD) programs. We note that very high increases needed for V.A. Medical Care (estimated by the Biden Administration to require a 22.5 percent increase for FY 2023), if included within the NDD appropriations category, will swallow a large proportion of the funding available to respond to growing needs in Labor-HHS-Education as well as other areas. We support holding V.A. Medical Care funding separate to allow for other essential funding increases.



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We urge you to commit to improving the lives of Americans by significantly boosting the allocation for the Labor-HHS-Education bill for FY 2023 to provide needed services for the American public. If you have questions about this letter, please contact:

- Sarah Abernathy, Committee for Education Funding (abernathy@cef.org);
- Erin Will Morton, Coalition for Health Funding (emorton@dc-crd.com);
- Megan Evans, Campaign to Invest in America's Workforce (MeganE@nationalskillscoalition.org); or
- Deborah Weinstein, Coalition on Human Needs (dweinstein@chn.org)

Sincerely,

20/20 Vision DC
 9/11 Day
 AASA, The School Superintendents Association
 Academy for Radiology & Biomedical Imaging Research
 Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
 Accessia Health
 Accord
 Addiction Connections Resource
 Adult Learning Alliance
 Afterschool Alliance
 Agriculture Teachers Association of Texas
 AIDS Action Baltimore
 AIDS Alabama
 AIDS Foundation Chicago
 AIDS United
 Alabama Arise
 Alabama Case - ALACASE
 Alaska Association of Career and Technical Education
 Alaska Council of Administrators of Special Education
 Alger Marquette Community Action Board
 All Brains Belong VT
 Alzheimer's Association/Alzheimer's Impact Movement
 America Forward
 America Learns
 American Academy of Pediatrics
 American Alliance of Museums
 American Association for Dental, Oral, and Craniofacial Research
 American Association for Respiratory Care
 American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases
 American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education
 American Association of Colleges of Nursing
 American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine
 American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy



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American Association of Community Colleges
American Association of Neuromuscular & Electrodiagnostic Medicine
American Association on Health and Disability
American Brain Coalition
American College of Clinical Pharmacy
American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
American College of Physicians
American College of Preventive Medicine
American Council on Education
American Educational Research Association
American Federation of School Administrators
American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees
American Federation of Teachers
American Friends Service Committee
American Heart Association
American Library Association
American Liver Foundation
American Lung Association
American Nurses Association
American Psychological Association
American Public Health Association
American School Counselor Association
American Society for Microbiology
American Society of Hematology
American Society of Nephrology
American Society of Pediatric Nephrology
American Statistical Association
American Thoracic Society
AMORC
Appalachian Community Action and Development Agency, Inc.
Arizona Council for Administrator of Special Education (AzCASE)
Arizona Council for Exceptional Children
Arkansas CASE
Arthritis Foundation
Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance, AFL-CIO
Assistive Technology Industry Association (ATIA)
Association for Career and Technical Education
Association for Clinical and Translational Science
Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology
Association for Psychological Science
Association of American Medical Colleges
Association of Assistive Technology Act Programs
Association of Clinicians for the Underserved
Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT)
Association of Educational Service Agencies
Association of Farmworker Opportunity Programs



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Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities
Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs
Association of Population Centers
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities
Association of Public Data Users
Association of Public Health Laboratories
Association of School Business Officials International (ASBO)
Association of State and Territorial Health Officials
Association of University Centers on Disabilities
Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses
Autistic Self Advocacy Network
B.H. Resident Support Group
Bancroft-Rosalie Comm School
BellXcel
Big Cities Health Coalition
Biophysical Society
Brightpoint Head Start
Business Leaders United
California Association for Career and Technical Education
California Family Resource Association
Campaign to Invest in America's Workforce
Career and Technical Association of Texas
CAST, Inc.
Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP)
Center for Learner Equity
CenterLink: The Community of LGBT Centers
Central VT SU
Chickasaw County Public Health and Homecare Services
Child Abuse Prevention Council of Sacramento
Child Care Law Center
Children's Defense Fund
Chronic Disease Alliance
Church World Service
City Year, Inc.
Clinical Research Forum
Coalition for a Better Acre
Coalition for Clinical and Translational Science
Coalition for Health Funding
Coalition for Nonprofit Housing and Economic Development
Coalition on Human Needs
College Possible
Colorado ACTE
Committee for Children
Committee for Education Funding (CEF)
Community Action, Inc.
Community Change Action



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Community Colleges for Iowa
Community Food Advocates
Community Liver Alliance
Conference of Educational Administrators of Schools and Programs for the Deaf
Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, U.S. Provinces
Consortium for School Networking (CoSN)
COPD Foundation
Council for Exceptional Children
Council for Opportunity in Education
Council of Administrators of Special Education
Council of Parent Attorneys and Advocates (COPAA)
Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation
Digestive Disease National Coalition
Disabled In Action of Metropolitan NY
Dystonia Medical Research Foundation
Early Learning Essentials
EDGE Consulting Partners
Education Policy Program at New America
Endocrine Society
Federation of Associations in Behavioral and Brain Sciences
First Focus Campaign for Children
FoodCorps
Foundation for Sarcoidosis Research
Franklin Primary Health Center, Inc.
Friends of the Institute of Education Sciences
Futures Without Violence
GBS|CIDP Foundation International
Georgia ACTE
Georgia-CASE
Global Liver Institute
Good Days
Goodwill Industries International, Inc.
Graham County Schools
Grand St. Settlement
Green Dot Public Schools National
Green Mountain Self-advocates
Harford County Public Schools
Hawaii HomeOwnership Center
Health Care Voices
HealthyWomen
Higher Education Consortium for Special Education (HECSE)
HIMSS
HIV Dental Alliance
HIV Medicine Association
Hope Charities



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Human Rights Campaign
Human Service Chamber of Franklin County
Humboldt UU Fellowship
Hunger Free America
Illinois Alliance of Administrators of Special Education
Illinois Society for the Prevention of Blindness
Immigration Hub
Indiana Council of Administrators of Special Education
Infectious Diseases Society of America
Interfaith Community Housing of Delaware, Inc.
International Certification & Reciprocity Consortium
International Foundation for Gastrointestinal Disorders
Interstitial Cystitis Association
Iowa Citizen Action Network
Islamic Relief USA
Johnson Park Center (JPC)
Kansas Association of Special Education Administrators
Kentucky Association for Career and Technical Education (KACTE)
Kentucky Task Force on Hunger
Kids Win Missouri
Knowledge Alliance
KnowledgePanel
KY Council of Administrators of Special Education
Lakeshore Foundation
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)
Lymphatic Education & Research Network
March of Dimes
Massachusetts Service Alliance
Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.
Meals on Wheels America
MENTOR
METAvivor
Midwest Minnesota Community Development Corporation
Minnesota Administrators for Special Education
Missouri Council of Administrators of Special Education
MomsRising
Muscular Dystrophy Association
Musikanten
NAPHSIS
NASTAD
National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd
National AfterSchool Association
National Alliance for Eye and Vision Research
National Alliance to End Sexual Violence
National Alopecia Areata Foundation
National Association for College Admission Counseling



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National Association for Music Education
National Association of County and City Health Officials
National Association of Elementary School Principals
National Association of Federally Impacted Schools (NAFIS)
National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities
National Association of RSVP Directors
National Association of School Psychologists
National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP)
National Association of Workforce Boards
National Black Justice Coalition
National Center for Families Learning
National Center for Learning Disabilities
National Center for Parent Leadership, Advocacy, and Community Empowerment (National PLACE)
National Coalition Against Domestic Violence
National Coalition for Literacy
National College Attainment Network
National Community Action Partnership
National Council of Jewish Women
National Council of State Directors of Adult Education
National Council of Teachers of Mathematics
National Council on Aging
National Council on Independent Living
National Eczema Association
National Family Planning & Reproductive Health Association
National Health Care for the Homeless Council
National Latino Farmers & Ranchers Trade Association
National MS Society
National NeighborWorks Association
National Network of Public Health Institutes
National Network to End Domestic Violence
National Pancreas Foundation
National PTA
National Rural Education Association
National Rural Health Association
National School Boards Association
National Scleroderma Foundation
National Senior Corps Association
National Skills Coalition
National Summer Learning Association (NSLA)
National Superintendents Roundtable
National Viral Hepatitis Roundtable
National Youth Leadership Council
National Council for Community and Education Partnerships (NCCEP)
Neighborhood Housing Services of South Florida, Inc.
NeighborWorks Northeast Nebraska



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NephCure Kidney International
Nevada Association of Career and Technical Educators
New Mexico Association for Career Technical Education
Next100
NH Association of Special Education Administrators
NJ Public Health Association
NM CASE
North Carolina AIDS Action Network
North Jersey Aids Alliance, Inc. d.b.a. North Jersey Community Research Initiative (NJCRI)
Nutrition and Medical Foods Coalition
NY CASE
Ohio Association of Pupil Services Administrators
OraSure Technologies, Inc.
Oregonizers
PA Association for Adult Continuing Education
PA CASE
Paraquad
Parents as Teachers
Pennsylvania Head Start Association
Philadelphia Department of Public Health
Physician Assistant Education Association
Planned Parenthood Federation of America
Population Association of America
Poverty project at the Institute for Policy Studies
Prevent Blindness
Prevent Blindness Georgia
Prevent Blindness Iowa
Prevent Blindness North Carolina
Prevent Blindness Wisconsin
Prevent Child Abuse California
Project Bread
Project Sleep
ProLiteracy
Public Advocacy for Kids (PAK)
Public Health Institute
Pulmonary Hypertension Association
R2H Action [Right to Health]
Rachel Carson Council
Rebuild America's Schools
Research Allies for Lifelong Learning
Research!America
Restless Legs Syndrome Foundation
RESULTS DC/MD
Rise Up WV
Rural Schools Assn of NYS
SAGA Innovations/ dba Saga Education



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San Francisco AIDS Foundation
SBP
School Social Work Association of America
SchoolHouse Connection
Self-Help Home Improvement Project
Service Year Alliance
Sisters of Charity of Nazareth Congregational Leadership
Sisters of Charity of Nazareth Western Province Leadership
Sleep Research Society
Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America
Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine
Society for Neuroscience
Society for Reproductive Investigation
Society for Women's Health Research
Society of General Internal Medicine
Sojourners
SolidarityINFOService
South Dakota CASE
SPAN Parent Advocacy Network (SPAN)
State Higher Education Executive Officers Association
States for Service Coalition
Ste. Genevieve R-II School District
Tahirih Justice Center
Teach For America
TESOL International Association
Texas Council of Administrators of Special Education
The Advocacy Institute
The AIDS Institute
The Arc of the United States
The Education Trust
The Massachusetts Administrators for Special Education (ASE)
The National Domestic Violence Hotline
The Sturge-Weber Foundation
Tourette Association of America
Trust for America's Health
TrustedRiders Inc
Tulane University
Ujjima Inc., The National Center on Violence Against Women in the Black Community
United States Workforce Associations
University of California Student Association
University of California System
University of Rochester
US COPD Coalition
US Hereditary Angioedema Association
Utah Association for Career and Technical Education
Valley Oak Children's Services



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Voices for National Service
Voices of Hope
WAIHA Warriors
Washington Association for Career and Technical Education
Washington CASE
West Virginians for Affordable Health Care
Westfield Community Center Assoc
Wisconsin Council of Administrators of Special Services
World Education, Inc.
Wyoming Association for Career and Technical Education
YMCA of the USA
Youth Development Inc., YDI
Youth Villages
YWCA USA
ZERO TO THREE