

May 8, 2006

The Honorable J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker
The Honorable Nancy Pelosi, House Minority Leader
The Honorable Bill Frist, Senate Majority Leader
The Honorable Harry Reid, Senate Minority Leader
The Honorable Jerry Lewis, House Appropriations, Chairman
The Honorable David Obey, House Appropriations, Ranking Minority Member
The Honorable Thad Cochran, Senate Appropriations, Chairman
The Honorable Robert Byrd, Senate Appropriations, Ranking Minority Member

Dear _____: (individually addressed)

The undersigned education, training, disability, public health, medical research, [child welfare organizations and labor unions](#) representing the full range of stakeholders in the programs of the Departments of Education, Health and Human Services and Labor, urge you to ensure that the final allocation for the House and Senate Labor, Health and Human Services, Education Appropriations Subcommittees reflects a \$7 billion increase above the President's request for these critically important programs in FY 2007. As you know, a few weeks ago the Senate overwhelmingly passed by a vote of 73-27 an amendment that adds \$7 billion to the Senate Budget Resolution to bring discretionary programs in the Labor, Health and Human Services and Education appropriations bill back to FY 2005 funding levels. We urge you to honor that strong vote as the process moves forward.

The programs and services administered by the Departments of Health and Human Services, Education, and Labor serve a broad range of constituencies and needs. However, they all share a common, fundamental goal of strengthening this nation by investing in and improving the quality of life of its people, especially the most vulnerable. In February, House Labor, Health and Human Services and Education Appropriations Subcommittee Chairman Ralph Regula testified before the House Budget Committee that the FY 2006 Labor, HHS and Education appropriations bill was cut by \$1.6 billion (the only bill to be cut below FY 2005 levels). The Administration's FY 2007 budget proposes to further reduce funding in the bill by nearly \$4 billion. Chairman Regula said, "As you consider the budget, I strongly urge you to be mindful of the considerable impact the programs in this bill have on Americans." We agree. America cannot sustain its global scientific and economic leadership, national security and citizens' health and well-being without increasing these investments.

While our organizations represent a wide array of domestic priorities, we are united in our effort to advance the bipartisan goal of adding \$7 billion in discretionary funding for health, education, [labor enforcement](#), job training and [social services](#) programs as the budget process moves forward. On behalf of our millions of constituents, we strongly urge you to provide [at least](#) \$7 billion in additional federal support to restore funding levels to FY 2005. This is essential to sustain the well-being and prosperity of our nation.

Respectfully,

Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research
Adapted Physical Activity Council
Advocate Health Care
AIDS Action
Allegheny-Singer Research Institute
Alliance for Aging Research
Alliance for Children and Families
Alliance for Excellent Education
Alzheimer's Association
Ambulatory Pediatric Association
American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology
American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
American Academy of Family Physicians
American Academy of Neurology
American Academy of Nurse Practitioners
American Academy of Otolaryngology--Head and Neck Surgery
American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry
American Academy of Pediatrics
American Academy of Physician Assistants
American Association for Geriatric Psychiatry
American Association for Respiratory Care
American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases
American Association of Colleges of Nursing
American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine
American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy
American Association of Community Colleges
American Association of People with Disabilities
American Association of School Administrators
American Association of State Colleges and Universities
American Brain Coalition
American Cancer Society
American College of Cardiology
American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
American College of Preventive Medicine
American Council of the Blind
American Council on Education
American Counseling Association
American Dental Association
American Dental Education Association
American Diabetes Association
American Educational Research Association
American Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO)
American Federation of School Administrators

American Federation of Teachers
American Group Psychotherapy Association
American Health Information Management Association
American Heart Association
American Institute for Medical and Bioengineering
American Liver Foundation
American Lung Association
American Medical Association
American Medical Student Association
American Mental Health Counselors
American Nephrology Nurses' Association
American Occupational Therapy Association
American Optometric Association
American Osteopathic Association
American Pain Foundation
American Pediatric Society
American Pharmacists Association
American Physical Therapy Association
American Physiological Society
American Podiatric Medical Association
American Printing House for the Blind
American Psychiatric Association
American Psychological Association
American Public Health Association
American Safety & Health Institute
American Social Health Association
American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
American Society for Bone and Mineral Research
American Society for Clinical Pathology
American Society for Microbiology
American Society of Addiction Medicine
American Society of Clinical Oncology
American Sociological Association
American Student Association of Community Colleges
American Therapeutic Recreation Association
American Thoracic Society
Americans for Medical Progress
America's Blood Centers
amfAR, The Foundation for AIDS Research
Amputee Coalition of America
AO North America
AORN, Association of PeriOperative Registered Nurses
APTS Action, Inc.
Arthritis Foundation, Metro Washington Chapter
Association for Career and Technical Education
Association for Prevention Teaching and Research

Association for Psychological Science
Association of Academic Health Centers
Association of Air Medical Services
Association of American Medical Colleges
Association of American Universities
Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges
Association of Biomolecular Resource Facilities
Association of Community College Trustees
Association of Departments of Family Medicine
Association of Faculties of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
Association of Family Medicine Residency Directors
Association of Medical School Pediatric Department Chairs
Association of Minority Health Professions Schools
Association of Public Health Laboratories
Association of Public Television Stations
Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry
Association of University Centers on Disabilities
Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses
Asthma & Allergy Foundation of America
Biophysical Society
Boys Town National Research Hospital
California Medical Association
Campaign for Medical Research
CARES Foundation, Inc.
Center for Emerging Technologies
Center for the Advancement of Health
Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science
Children & Adults with Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder
Christopher Reeve Foundation
Clinical Social Work Federation
Clinical Social Work Guild
Coalition for American Trauma Care
Coalition for Health Funding
Coalition for Health Services Research
Coalition for the Advancement of Health Through Behavioral and Social Science Research
Coalition to Protect Research
Columbus Children's Research Institute
Communications Workers of America
Consortium of Physical Education and Recreation for Individuals with Disabilities
Consortium of Social Science Associations
Cooley's Anemia Foundation
Council for Exceptional Children
Council of Great City Schools
Council of Higher Education Assistance Organizations
Council of the American Society for Investigative Pathology
Counsel for Opportunity in Education

Creighton University
Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America
Department of Professional Employees, AFL-CIO
Digestive Disease National Coalition
Dystonia Medical Research Foundation
Eating Disorders Coalition for Research, Policy & Action
Epilepsy Foundation
ESA, Inc.
FED ED
Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology
Friends of the National Institute on Aging
Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Education Network
General Clinical Research Centers Program Directors Association
Gold Cross/Mayo Medical Transport
Health Professions and Nursing Education Coalition
Hemophilia Federation of America
Hepatitis Foundation International
Higher Education Consortium for Special Education
HIV Medicine Association
Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy Association
Infectious Diseases Society of America
Institute for the Advancement of Social Work Research
Inter-National Association of Business, Industry and Rehabilitation
International Foundation for Functional Gastrointestinal Disorders
International Myeloma Foundation
International Reading Association
International Society of Technology in Education
Jeffrey Modell Foundation
Joint Commission on Allied Health Personnel in Ophthalmology
Association of Technical Personnel in Ophthalmology
Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation International
Lupus Foundation of America, Inc.
Lymphoma Research Foundation
Magnet Schools of America
March of Dimes
Medical Library Association/Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries
Meharry Medical College
Michigan State Area Health Education Center
Morehouse School of Medicine
Muscular Dystrophy Association
NAADAC, The Association for Addiction Professionals
National AHEC Organization
National Alliance for Eye and Vision Research/Alliance for Eye and Vision Research
National Alliance of Black School Educators
National Alliance on Mental Illness
National Association for Biomedical Research

National Association for Children of Alcoholics
National Association for Children's Behavioral Health
National Association for Geriatric Education
National Association for Geriatric Education Centers
National Association for Public Health Statistics and Information Systems
National Association of Chronic Disease Directors
National Association of College Admission Counseling
National Association of Community Health Centers
National Association of County and City Health Officials
National Association of County Behavioral Health and Developmental Disability Directors
National Association of Elementary School Principals
National Association of Graduate and Professional Students
National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities
National Association of Medical Minority Educators, Inc.
National Association of Mental Health Planning and Advisory Councils
National Association of School Psychologists
National Association of Secondary School Principals
National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors
National Association of State Directors of Special Education
National Association of State Head Injury Administrators
National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges
National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators
National Center for Learning Disabilities
National Coalition for Osteoporosis and Related Bone Diseases
National Coalition of STD Directors
National Council for Literacy
National Disability Rights Network
National Education Association
National Education Knowledge Industry Association
National Health Council
National Kidney Foundation
National Marfan Foundation
National Mental Health Association
National Middle School Association
National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health
National Psoriasis Foundation
National Rural Education Advocacy Coalition
National Rural Education Association
National Rural Health Association
National School Boards Association
National Sleep Foundation
NephCure Foundation
Neuropathy Association
Neuropathy Research Foundation
North American Primary Care Research Group
Nurses Organization of Veterans Affairs

Oncology Nursing Society
Orthopaedic Trauma Association
Osteogenesis Imperfecta Foundation
Ovarian Cancer National Alliance
Pancreatic Cancer Action Network
Paralyzed Veterans of America
Pre-K Now
Public Broadcasting Station
Pulmonary Hypertension Association
Reading Is Fundamental
Reading Recovery Council of North America
Research Institute for Independent Living
RTI International
Save A Life Foundation
Sbarro Health Research Organization
School Social Work Association of America
Service Employees International Union
Society for Investigative Dermatology
Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine
Society for Neuroscience
Society for Pediatric Research
Society for Research in Child Development
Society for Women's Health Research
Society of General Internal Medicine
Society of Teachers of Family Medicine,
Spina Bifida Association
Summit Health Institute for Research and Education, Inc.
Teach for America
TeenScreen
The AIDS Institute
The Arc
The College Board
The Endocrine Society
The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society
The Lupus Foundation of America, Inc.
The Mount Sinai School of Medicine
The Protein Society
Therapeutic Communities of America
Tourette Syndrome Association
Transportation Communication Union/IAM
Trust for America's Health
United Cerebral Palsy
University of Utah Health Sciences Center
University of Washington
Wisconsin Association for Biomedical Research & Education
Woodruff Health Sciences Center