May 14, 2010

Dear Chairmen Inouye and Obey and Ranking Members Cochran and Lewis:

The undersigned education, training, disability, public health, medical research, women’s, children’s, civil rights, anti-poverty, faith and labor organizations 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 FY 2011 302(b) allocation for the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee reflects at least a $21 billion increase above the FY 2010 enacted level for these critically important programs. This amount would maintain and expand service levels and restore purchasing power by: (1) responding to increased demand for these programs in the wake of the recession; (2) restoring programmatic cuts and more appropriately accounting for inflation and population growth; (3) stemming deep state cuts to many of these functions; (4) paying for a shortfall in the Pell Grant program; and (5) making permanent the capacity generated by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act for select programs within these Departments, increasing momentum for economic recovery and prosperity.

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. Unfortunately, the resources needed to support all individuals and families have been cut, eroded by inflation, or stretched thin by swelling numbers of those in need. While Congress has worked to restore some of these cuts, many programs still remain far below their FY 2005 level, and others lost all funding. Many of these programs also face deep cuts due to the continuing large state budget gaps.

The President’s FY 2011 budget request is a positive step forward which invests in and restores some important programs in the Labor, HHS, and Education Appropriations bill. Nevertheless, we hope Congress will seize the opportunity to further strengthen America’s global scientific, education and economic leadership, national security, and citizens’ health and well-being by increasing these investments and making capacity created by ARRA permanent.

The 389 organizations listed below represent a wide array of domestic priorities, but we are united in our effort to increase discretionary funding for health, education, labor enforcement, job training, children’s and social services programs by at least $21 billion—a funding increase that is consistent with our previous requests and essential to sustaining the prosperity and standards of living of our nation.

To respond to this letter, please contact Emily Holubowich, Executive Director, Coalition for Health Funding (eholubowich@dc-crd.com or 202.484.1100) or Joel Packer, Executive Director, Committee for Education Funding (jpacker@cef.org or 202.383-0083).

Cc: Members Senate and House Appropriations Committees

Respectfully,
1. A.T. Still University of Health Sciences-Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine
2. Academy of General Dentistry
3. Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research
4. Administrators of Internal Medicine
5. Afterschool Alliance
6. AIDS Action
7. AIDS Action Baltimore
8. AIDS Alliance for Children, Youth and Families
9. AIDS Project Los Angeles
10. AIDS Vaccine Advocacy Coalition
11. Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine
12. Alliance for Aging Research
13. Alliance for Excellent Education
14. Alpha-1 Association
15. Alpha-1 Foundation
16. Alzheimer's Association
17. American Academy of Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology
18. American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
19. American Academy of Family Physicians
20. American Academy of HIV Medicine
21. American Academy of Neurology
22. American Academy of Pediatrics
23. American Academy of Physical Medicine
25. American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance
26. American Association for Cancer Research
27. American Association for Dental Research
28. American Association for Geriatric Psychiatry
29. American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy
30. American Association for Respiratory Care
31. American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases
32. American Association of Anatomists
33. American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education
34. American Association of Colleges of Nursing
35. American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine
36. American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy
37. American Association of Colleges of Podiatric Medicine
38. American Association of Community Colleges
39. American Association of Immunologists
40. American Association of Public Health Dentistry
41. American Association of School Administrators
42. American Association of State Colleges and Universities
43. American Association of University Women (AAUW)
44. American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network
45. American College of Cardiology
46. American College of Clinical Pharmacy
47. American College of Physicians
48. American College of Preventive Medicine
49. American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
50. American Council for School Social Work
51. American Council on Education
52. American Counseling Association
53. American Dance Therapy Association
54. American Dental Association
55. American Dental Education Association
56. American Epilepsy Society
57. American Federation for Medical Research
58. American Federation of School Administrators
59. American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees
60. American Foundation for Suicide Prevention/SPAN USA
61. American Gastroenterological Association
62. American Heart Association
63. American Humane Association
64. American Institute for Medical and Biomedical Engineering
65. American Lung Association
66. American Medical Student Association
67. American Medical Women's Association
68. American Music Therapy Association
69. American Nurses Association
70. American Occupational Therapy Association
71. American Optometric Association
72. American Organization of Nurse Executives
73. American Osteopathic Association
74. American Partnership for Eosinophilic Disorders
75. American Physical Therapy Association
76. American Physiological Society
77. American Podiatric Medical Association
78. American Psychiatric Association
79. American Psychological Association
80. American Public Health Association
81. American Radiologic & Imaging Nursing
82. American School Counselor Association
83. American Social Health Association
84. American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
85. American Society for Bone and Mineral Research
86. American Society for Cell Biology
87. American Society for Clinical Investigation
88. American Society for Clinical Pathology
89. American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy
90. American Society for Microbiology
91. American Society for Nutrition
92. American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition
93. American Society for Pharmacology & Experimental Therapeutics
94. American Society for Reproductive Medicine
95. American Society of Clinical Oncology
96. American Society of Hematology
97. American Society of Nephrology
98. American Society of Pediatric Nephrology
99. American Society of Transplantation
100. American Sociological Association
101. American Speech-Language-Hearing Association
102. American Student Association of Community Colleges
103. American Thoracic Society
104. American Tinnitus Association
105. American Urogynecologists Society
106. amfAR- The Foundation for AIDS Research
107. Amputee Coalition of America
108. APPA, Leadership in Educational Facilities
109. Arthritis Foundation
110. Association for Career and Technical Education
111. Association for Career and Technical Education of Arizona
112. Association for Career and Technical Education of Nebraska
113. Association for Clinical Research Training
114. Association for Patient-Oriented Research
115. Association for Prevention Teaching and Research
116. Association for Psychological Science
117. Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology
118. Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development
119. Association of Academic Health Centers
120. Association of Academic Health Science Libraries
121. Association of Clinicians for the Underserved
122. Association of Community College Trustees
123. Association of Educational Service Agencies
124. Association of Independent Research Institutes
125. Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities
126. Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs
127. Association of Minority Health Professions Schools
128. Association of Nutrition Services Agencies
129. Association of Population Centers
130. Association of Professors of Medicine
131. Association of Program Directors in Internal Medicine
132. Association of Public and Land-grant Universities
133. Association of Public Health Laboratories
134. Association of Rehabilitation Nurses
135. Association of School Business Officials International
136. Association of Schools of Public Health
137. Association of Specialty Professors
138. Association of State & Territorial Health Officials
139. Association of University Centers on Disabilities
140. Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses
141. Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law
142. Binghamton University
143. Boys Town National Research Hospital
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239. National Alliance for Eye and Vision Research
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242. National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors
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244. National Alliance to End Sexual Violence
245. National Association of Mental Health Planning and Advisory Councils
246. National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC)
247. National Association for Geriatric Education
248. National Association for Public Health Statistics and Information Systems
249. National Association for Sport and Physical Education
250. National Association for the Education of Young Children
251. National Association of Children's Hospitals
252. National Association of Chronic Disease Directors
253. National Association of College Stores
254. National Association of Community Health Centers
255. National Association of County and City Health Officials
256. National Association of County Behavioral Health and Developmental Disability Disorders
257. National Association of Elementary School Principals
258. National Association of Federally Impacted Schools
259. National Association of Geriatric Education Centers
260. National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities
261. National Association of Medical Minority Educators, Inc.
262. National Association of Mental Health Planning & Advisory Councils
263. National Association of Private Special Education Centers
264. National Association of Public Hospitals and Health Systems
265. National Association of Pupil Services Administrators
266. National Association of School Psychologists
268. National Association of Social Workers
269. National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors
270. National Association of State Directors of Career Technical Education Consortium
271. National Association of State Directors of Special Education
272. National Association of State Head Injury Administrators
273. National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators
274. National Birth Defects Prevention Network
275. National Business Coalition on Health
276. National Coalition for Cancer Research (NCCR)
277. National Coalition for LGBT Health
278. National Coalition for Mental Health Recovery
279. National Coalition of STD Directors
280. National Council for Community and Education Partnerships (NCCEP)
281. National Council for Community Behavioral Healthcare
282. National Council of Jewish Women
283. National Council of La Raza (NCLR)
284. National Council of Women's Organizations
285. National Council on Diversity in the Health Professions
286. National Disability Rights Network
287. National Education Association
288. National Family Planning and Reproductive Health Association
289. National Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health
290. National Forum for Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention
291. National Head Start Association
292. National Health Care for the Homeless Council
293. National Health Council
294. National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health
295. National League for Nursing
296. National LGBT Cancer Network
297. National Marfan Foundation
298. National Multiple Sclerosis Society
299. National Network of Public Health Institutes
300. National Network to End Domestic Violence
301. National Nursing Centers Consortium
302. National Organization for Women
303. National Parent Teacher Association
304. National Primate Research Centers
305. National Psoriasis Foundation
306. National REACH Coalition
307. National Rural Education Advocacy Coalition
308. National Rural Education Association
309. National Rural Health Association
310. National School Boards Association
311. National Science Teachers Association
312. National Spinal Cord Injury Association
313. National Title 1 Association
314. National Violence Prevention Network
315. Nevada Cancer Institute
316. New Jersey Association of Pupil Services
317. New Mexico Association of Career & Technical Education
318. New York University
319. North Carolina Association of School Administrators
320. Nurses Organizations of Veterans Affairs
321. Oklahoma Association of Career and Technology Education
322. Oncology Nursing Society
323. PA Association of School Administrators
324. Pancreatic Cancer Action Network (PanCAN)
325. Partnership for Prevention
326. Pediatric Stroke Network, Inc.
327. Physician Assistant Education Association
328. PKD Foundation
329. Planned Parenthood Federation of America
330. Population Association of America
331. Prevent Blindness America
332. Project DOCC-Delivery of Chronic Care
333. Project Inform
334. Public Education Network
335. Public Health - Seattle & King County
336. Public Health Institute
337. Public Health Solutions
338. Pulmonary Hypertension Association
339. PXE International
340. Research
341. Research!America
342. RESULTS
343. RTI International
344. Ryan White Medical Providers Coalition
345. School Social Work Association of America
346. Scleroderma Foundation
347. Service Employees International Union
348. Sexuality Information and Education Council of the United States
349. Sjögren's Syndrome Foundation
350. Society for Clinical and Translational Science
351. Society for General Internal Medicine
352. Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America
353. Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine
354. Society for Neuroscience
355. Society for Public Health Education
356. Society of Gynecologic Oncologists
357. Society of Hospital Medicine
358. Society of State Directors of Health, Physical Education and Recreation
359. South Dakota Association of Career and Technical Education
360. Special Olympics International
361. State Educational Technology Directors Association
362. Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages, Inc. (TESOL)
363. Teaching Strategies
364. Tennessee ACTE
365. The AIDS Institute
366. The American Brain Coalition
367. The Autism Society
368. The Coalition of Higher Education Assistance Organizations
369. The Endocrine Society
370. The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy
371. The National Women's Law Center
372. The NephCure Foundation
373. Tourette Syndrome Association
374. Treatment Action Group
375. Trust for America's Health
376. U.S. Psychiatric Rehabilitation Association
377. United Church of Christ Justice & Witness Ministries
378. United Methodist Church, General Board of Church and Society
379. United Spinal Association
380. University of the District of Columbia
381. Urban Coalition for HIV/AIDS Prevention Services
382. Utah Association for Career and Technical Education
383. Voices for America's Children
384. Washington Association for Career and Technical Education
385. Wisconsin Association for Career and Technical Education
386. WomenHeart: The National Coalition for Women with Heart Disease
387. Women's Research & Education Institute
388. Wyoming Association for Career and Technical Education (WACTE)
389. YMCA of the USA