



March 30, 2011

Chairman Fred Upton  
Committee on Energy and Commerce  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Ranking Member Henry Waxman  
Committee on Energy and Commerce  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Chairman Joe Pitts  
Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Health  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Ranking Member Frank Pallone, Jr.  
Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Health  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairmen Upton and Pitts and Ranking Members Waxman and Pallone:

Trust for America's Health (TFAH) would like to express serious concern over recent proposals to eliminate or reclassify the Prevention and Public Health Fund (Fund). TFAH is a nonprofit, nonpartisan public health advocacy organization dedicated to saving lives by making disease prevention a national priority.

As you know, the Fund is a dedicated investment in community prevention and state and local public health infrastructure and workforce and is a much-needed down payment on the health and economic well being of all Americans. As such, we oppose any effort to eliminate or reclassify the Fund.

States are already using Prevention Fund dollars to build epidemiology and laboratory capacity to track and respond to disease outbreaks, train the public health workforce, prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS, reduce tobacco use, and help control the obesity epidemic.

Millions of dollars in mandatory funding are spent each year via the Medicare, Medicaid, and other federal health care programs to pay for health care services once patients develop an acute illness, injury or chronic disease and present for treatment in our health care system. Yet prior to the creation of the Fund, there was no equivalent funding for efforts to promote wellness, prevent disease, and protect against public health or bioterror emergencies. At a time when today's children are in danger of becoming the first generation in American history to live shorter, less healthy lives than their parents, we need to get serious as a nation about our commitment to prevention, wellness, and preparedness.

However, unlike the mandatory funds for Medicare and Medicaid, the law creating the Fund explicitly reserves the right of Congress to allocate Fund dollars as they see fit within the normal appropriations process. This provision was purposefully inserted into the law to preserve the ability of appropriators to exercise their judgment in making funding decisions while maintaining this important fiscal commitment to prevention. Only when Congress has failed to pass a Labor,





Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies (Labor/HHS) appropriations bill has the Secretary of HHS exercised the statutory discretion to allocate the Prevention Fund.

Nearly 600 national, state, and local organizations (see attached) support the Fund as a primary vehicle for making public health investments that would create jobs and help to lower long-term health care costs. Even more importantly, the Fund fills a role that has the support of the American people -- a public opinion survey conducted by TFAH and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) found that 71 percent of Americans favored an increased investment in disease prevention.

Once again, we urge you to oppose efforts to reclassify or eliminate the Prevention and Public Health Fund. If we are serious about turning our sick care system into a disease prevention system and making wellness a priority, then now is the time to increase, rather than decrease our commitment to prevention and public health efforts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeffrey Levi".

Jeffrey Levi, PhD  
Executive Director, Trust for America's Health

## **Groups Supporting the Prevention and Public Health Fund**

Total count: 592 (3/29/11)

### National Organizations:

317 Coalition  
AARP  
Advocates for Better Children's Diets  
AIDS Alliance for Children Youth & Families  
AIDS United  
Alzheimer's Foundation of America  
American Academy of Family Physicians  
American Academy of HIV Medicine  
American Academy of Pediatrics  
American Academy of Physician Assistants  
American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance  
American Association for Health Education  
American Association for International Aging  
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 People With Disabilities  
American Association on Health and Disability  
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network  
American College of Clinical Pharmacy  
American College of Gastroenterology  
American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine  
American College of Preventive Medicine  
American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists  
American Counseling Association  
American Dental Education Association  
American Diabetes Association  
American Dietetic Association  
American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees  
American Foundation for Suicide Prevention  
American Health Planning Association  
American Heart Association  
American Liver Foundation  
American Lung Association  
American Medical Student Association  
American Muslim Health Professionals  
American Nurses Association  
American Physical Therapy Association

American Psychiatric Association  
American Psychological Association  
American Public Health Association  
American Sleep Apnea Association  
American Social Health Association  
American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy  
American Thoracic Society  
amfAR, the Foundation for AIDS Research  
Aniz, Inc.  
Applied Research Center  
Arthritis Foundation  
Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum  
Association for Prevention Teaching and Research  
Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology, Inc.  
Association of American Medical Colleges  
Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs  
Association of Public Health Laboratories  
Association of Schools of Public Health  
Association of State & Territorial Health Officials  
Association of State & Territorial Public Health Nutrition Directors  
Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors  
Association of State and Territorial Directors of Nursing  
Association of State and Territorial Health Officials  
Association of University Centers on Disabilities  
Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses  
AVAC: Global Advocacy for HIV Prevention  
Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law  
Building Healthier America  
C3: Colorectal Cancer Coalition  
Campaign for Community Change  
Campaign for Public Health  
Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids  
Caring Ambassadors Program  
C-Change  
Center for Adolescent Health & the Law  
Center for Biosecurity, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center  
Center for Health Improvement  
Center for Science in the Public Interest  
Children and Adults with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder  
Children Now  
Children's Dental Health Project  
Children's Health Fund  
Coalition for Health Funding  
Coalition for Health Services Research  
Colon Cancer Alliance  
Commissioned Officers Association of the U.S. Public Health Service

CommonHealth ACTION  
Community Access National Network  
Community Action Partnership  
Community Catalyst  
Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists  
Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America  
Defeat Diabetes Foundation  
Defeat Diabetes Fund  
Digestive Disease National Coalition  
Epilepsy Foundation  
Faces & Voices of Recovery  
Families USA  
Family Violence Prevention Fund  
Family Voices  
Federation of Associations in Behavioral & Brain Sciences  
Friends of AHRQ  
Friends of NCHS  
Friends of SAMHSA  
Global AIDS Alliance  
Grassroots Organizing  
Health Care for America Now  
Health Promotion Advocates  
Health Rights Organizing Project  
HealthHIV  
Hep C Connection  
Hepatitis B Foundation  
Hepatitis Foundation International  
HIV Medicine Association  
HIV Prevention Justice Alliance  
Home Safety Council  
Infectious Diseases Society of America  
Institute for Public Health Innovation  
Integrated Healthcare Policy Consortium  
International Certification and Reciprocity Consortium (IC&RC)  
International Health, Racquet & Sportsclub Association  
Interstitial Cystitis Association  
Iron Disorders Institute  
Laotian American National Alliance  
League of United Latin American Citizens  
Main Street Alliance  
March of Dimes Foundation  
Media Policy Center  
MEND Foundation  
Mended Little Hearts  
Mental Health America  
Mo Hepatitis C Alliance

National Alliance of Multi-ethnic Behavioral Health Associations  
National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors  
National Asian American Pacific Islander Mental Health Association  
National Assembly on School-Based Health Care  
National Assoc. of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a)  
National Association for Public Health Statistics and Information Systems  
National Association for Sport and Physical Education  
National Association of Chain Drug Stores  
National Association of Children's Hospitals  
National Association of Chronic Disease Directors  
National Association of Community Health Centers, Inc.  
National Association of Counties  
National Association of County and City Health Officials  
National Association of Local Boards of Health  
National Association of People with AIDS  
National Association of Public Hospitals and Health Systems  
National Association of School Nurses  
National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors  
National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors  
National Athletic Trainers' Association  
National Black Leadership Commission on AIDS  
National Business Coalition on Health  
National Center for Healthy Housing  
National Coalition for LGBT Health  
National Coalition for Promoting Physical Activity  
National Coalition of STD Directors  
National Council of Asian Pacific Islander Physicians  
National Council of Jewish Women  
National Council of La Raza  
National Council on Aging  
National Education Association  
National Environmental Health Association  
National Family Planning & Reproductive Health Association  
National Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health  
National Forum for Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention  
National Health Council  
National Health Equity Coalition  
National Indian Project Center  
National Initiative for Children's Healthcare Quality  
National Kidney Foundation  
National Korean American Service and Education Consortium  
National Latino AIDS Action Network  
National Minority AIDS Council  
National Network of Public Health Institutes  
National Nursing Centers Consortium  
National Nursing Network Organization

National Patient Advocate Foundation  
National Physicians Alliance  
National REACH Coalition  
National Recreation and Park Association  
National Rural Health Association  
National Viral Hepatitis Roundtable  
National WIC Association  
National Women and AIDS Collective (VT)  
Nemours  
North American Quitline Consortium  
Northwest Federation of Community Organizations  
Novo Nordisk  
OCA  
Out of Many, One  
Partnership for Prevention  
Pediatric Pharmacy Advocacy Group  
Pew Children's Dental Campaign  
Physician Assistant Education Association  
Planned Parenthood Federation of America  
PolicyLink  
Prevent Blindness America  
Prevention Institute  
Preventive Cardiovascular Nurses Association  
Professional Association of Social Workers in HIV and AIDS  
Project Inform  
Public Health Foundation  
Public Health Institute  
Public Health Law and Policy  
Public Health Solutions  
Pulmonary Hypertension Association  
Rails-to-Trails Conservancy  
Safe Routes to School National Partnership  
Safe States Alliance  
Samuels and Associates  
Service Employees International Union  
Sexuality Information and Education Council of the U.S.  
Society Against STI's & HIV  
Society for Adolescent Health and Medicine  
Society for Advancement of Violence and Injury Research  
Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America  
Society for Public Health Education  
Society of General Internal Medicine  
State and Territorial Injury Prevention Directors Association  
Summit Health Institute for Research and Education, Inc.  
Tethys Bioscience, Inc.  
The AIDS Institute

The Center for HIV Law and Policy  
The Corporate Hepatitis Alliance  
The National Alliance to Advance Adolescent Health  
The National LGBT Cancer Project - Out With Cancer  
Treatment Access Expansion Project (MA)  
Trust for America's Health  
U.S. PIRG  
United Fresh Produce Association  
United Ostomy Associations of America  
United Way Worldwide  
Urban Coalition for HIV/AIDS Prevention Services  
WomenHeart: The National Coalition for Women with Heart Disease  
YMCA of the USA

State Organizations:

**Alabama**

AIDS Alabama  
Alabama Public Health Association  
American Lung Association in Alabama  
Birmingham AIDS Outreach  
Southern AIDS Coalition, Inc.

**Alaska**

American Lung Association in Alaska

**Arizona**

American Lung Association in Arizona  
Maricopa County Dept of Public Health

**Arkansas**

American Lung Association in Arkansas  
Community Health Centers of Arkansas, Arkansas Primary Care Association  
The Living Affected Corporation  
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences

**California**

**A World Fit for Kids!**  
**ACCESS Women's Health Justice**  
**AIDS Project Los Angeles**  
**All Saints Home Care And Referral Services**  
**American Lung Association in California**  
**Asian & Pacific Islander Wellness Center**  
**Asian and Pacific AIDS Intervention Team**  
**Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations**  
**Beach Cities Health District**  
**Berkeley Media Studies Group**  
**Bienestar Human Services**  
**California Association of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Counselors**  
**California Center for Public Health Advocacy**  
**California Conference of Local Health Department Nursing Directors**  
**California Conference of Local Health Officers**  
**California Food Policy Advocates**  
**California Foundation for the Advancement of Addiction Professionals**  
**California Immigrant Policy Center**  
**California Newsreel**  
**California Pan-Ethnic Health Network**  
**California Partnership**  
**California Primary Care Association**  
**California Public Health Association**  
**California School Health Centers Association**  
**Children's Hospital and Research Center Oakland**  
**Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of LA**  
**Community Health Councils**  
**County Health Executives Association of California**  
**County of Santa Clara, California**  
**County of Sonoma, California**  
**Desert AIDS Project**  
**First Five**  
**Having Our Say Coalition**  
**Health Justice Network**  
**Health Officers Association of California**  
**Hep B Free Long Beach**  
**JWCH Institute, Inc.**  
**Korean Resource Center**  
**Latino Coalition for a Healthy California**  
**Libreria del Pueblo Inc.**  
**North County Health Services**  
**Prochilo Health, Inc.**  
**Redwood AIDS Information Network & Services**  
**South Bay Coalition**  
**Special Services for Groups, Inc. - PALS for Health**  
**STOP AIDS Project**

Thai Health and Information Services, Inc.  
The California Hepatitis Alliance  
The Friends of AIDS Foundation  
The Greenlining Institute  
United Cambodian Community

**Colorado**

American Lung Association in Colorado  
Colorado AIDS Project  
Colorado Community Health Network  
Colorado Progressive Coalition  
Colorado Public Health Association  
Community Health Association of Mountain/Plains States  
Northern Colorado AIDS Project

**Connecticut**

American Lung Association in Connecticut  
Connecticut Association of Directors of Health  
Connecticut Certification Board  
Connecticut Citizen Action Group  
United Action Connecticut  
Khmer Health Advocates, Inc.

**Delaware**

American Lung Association in Delaware  
Delaware Center for Health Promotion  
Health Education Network of Delaware  
The Ministry of Caring, Inc.

**District of Columbia**

American Lung Association in the District of Columbia

**Florida**

AIDS Service Association of Pinellas  
ALERT Health, Inc.  
American Lung Association in Florida

DYNS Services, Inc.  
Florida Public Health Association  
ISAIAH  
NOFLAweb.org  
Okaloosa AIDS Support and Informational Services, Inc.  
Riverfund, Inc. (The River Fund)  
Youth Education Services

### **Georgia**

American Lung Association in Georgia  
Atlanta Regional Health Forum  
Bryan County Health Department  
Camden County Health Department  
Center for Pan Asian Community Services, Inc  
Chatham County Health Department  
Effingham County Health Department  
Georgia AIDS Coalition  
Georgia Equality  
Georgia Public Health Association  
Glynn County Health Department  
Grady Health System Infectious Disease Program  
HIV Dental Alliance  
Institute for Health and Productivity Studies, Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University  
Institute of Public Health, Georgia State University  
Long County Health Department  
Liberty County Health Department  
McIntosh County Health Department  
The Youth Becoming Healthy Project, Inc.

### **Hawaii**

American Lung Association in Hawaii  
Faith Action for Community Equity  
Hawaii Island HIV/AIDS Foundation  
Hawai'i Primary Care Association  
Malama Pono Health Services  
Papa Ola Lokahi

### **Idaho**

Allies Linked for the Prevention of HIV & AIDS

American Lung Association in Idaho  
Idaho Community Action Network

**Illinois**

AIDS Foundation of Chicago  
American Lung Association in Illinois  
Asian Health Coalition  
Chicago House and Social Service Agency  
Children's Heart Foundation  
Cook County Department of Public Health  
David Ostrow & Associates, LLC  
Illinois Association of Public Health Administrators  
Illinois Maternal and Child Health Coalition  
Illinois Primary Health Care Association  
Illinois Public Health Institute  
Northern Illinois Public Health Consortium  
Open Door Clinic  
Project VIDA  
Springfield Harm Reduction Initiative  
The Phoenix Center  
Total Health Awareness Team

**Indiana**

American Lung Association in Indiana  
Indiana Association of Public Health Physicians and Local Health Departments  
Organization, Inc.  
Indiana Primary Health Care Association  
Indiana Public Health Association

**Iowa**

AIDS Project of Central Iowa  
American Lung Association in Iowa  
Community HIV/Hepatitis Advocates of Iowa Network  
Iowa Counties Public Health Association  
Iowa Public Health Association  
Wilson Resource Center

## **Massachusetts**

American Lung Association in Massachusetts  
Boston Public Health Commission  
Health Resources in Action, Inc.  
Immigrant Service Providers Group/Health  
Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers  
Massachusetts Public Health Association  
Plymouth AIDS Support Services  
Victory Programs, Inc.

## **Michigan**

American Lung Association in Michigan  
Huron County Health Department  
Michigan Association for Local Public Health  
Michigan Positive Action Coalition  
Michigan Primary Care Association  
Michigan Public Health Association  
Monroe County Public Health Department  
Public Health-Monroe County  
Tuscola County Health Department  
United Health Organization

## **Minnesota**

American Lung Association in Minnesota  
Local Public Health Association of Minnesota  
Minnesota AIDS Project  
Minnesota Association of Community Health Center  
TakeAction Minnesota

## **Mississippi**

American Lung Association in Mississippi  
Mississippi Primary Health Care Association

## **Missouri**

American Lung Association in Missouri  
Doorways Interfaith Housing  
Missouri Association of Local Public Health Agencies  
Missouri Primary Care Association  
Missouri Public Health Association

### **Montana**

American Lung Association in Montana  
Indian People's Action  
Montana Organizing Project  
RiverStone Health

### **Nebraska**

American Lung Association in Nebraska  
CityMatCH  
Nebraska AIDS Project  
Nebraska Appleseed  
Nebraska Cancer Coalition  
Nebraska Public Health Association  
Nebraska State Association of County & City Health Officials  
Nebraska Urban Indian Health Coalition  
Public Health Association of Nebraska

### **Nevada**

American Lung Association in Nevada  
Nevada Public Health Association  
Partners for a Healthy Nevada  
Progressive Leadership Association of Nevada

### **New Hampshire**

American Lung Association in New Hampshire  
Bi-State Primary Care Association  
Granite State Organizing Project  
New Hampshire Public Health Association

### **New Jersey**

American Lung Association in New Jersey  
Hyacinth AIDS Foundation  
MAAT Center  
New Jersey Association of County Health Officers  
New Jersey Health Officers Association  
New Jersey Primary Care Association  
New Jersey Public Health Association  
New Jersey Women and AIDS Network

#### **New Mexico**

American Lung Association in New Mexico  
First Nations Community HealthSource  
New Mexico Hepatitis C Alliance Alliance  
New Mexico Primary Care Association  
New Mexico Public Health Association

#### **New York**

African Services Committee  
American Lung Association in New York  
Amethyst Women's Project  
B Free CEED Coalition  
Black Women's Blueprint  
Brooklyn Perinatal Network, Inc.  
CEO Services  
Community Health Care Association of New York State  
FamilyCook Productions  
Gay Men of African Descent  
HIV Law Project  
Harm Reduction Coalition  
Harlem United Community AIDS Center, Inc.  
Liberty Research Group  
Latino Commission on AIDS  
Love Alive International  
Lower East Side Harm Reduction Center  
Make the Road New York  
NYC Hepatitis B Coalition  
New York Academy of Medicine  
New York Harm Reduction Educators, Inc.  
New York Immigration Coalition  
New York Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy  
New York State Association of County Health Officials  
NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene  
NYU Langone Medical Center

Status C Unknown  
The Amos Project  
The Community Heart Health Coalition of Ulster County  
The Women's Center  
Visual AIDS for the Arts, Inc

### **North Carolina**

American Lung Association in North Carolina  
Asthma Alliance of North Carolina  
Nia's Ark  
North Carolina Association of Local Health Directors  
North Carolina Community Health Center Association  
North Carolina Fair Share  
North Carolina Harm Reduction Coalition  
North Carolina Public Health Association  
Pitt County Memorial Hospital Pediatric Asthma Services

### **North Dakota**

American Lung Association in North Dakota

### **Ohio**

American Lung Association in Ohio  
Association of Nurses in AIDS Care  
Association of Ohio Health Commissioners  
Cerebral Palsy Association of Ohio  
Mahoning Valley Organizing Collaborative  
Miami Valley Positives for Positives  
Northeast Ohio Alliance for Hope  
Ohio AIDS Coalition  
Ohio Alliance for Retired Americans  
Ohio Association of Community Health Centers  
Ohio Public Health Association  
Progress Ohio  
UHCAN Ohio  
The MetroHealth System  
Toledo Area Jobs with Justice

### **Oklahoma**

**American Lung Association in Oklahoma**

**Oregon**

American Lung Association in Oregon  
Multnomah County  
Oregon Action  
Oregon Primary Care Association  
Oregon Public Health Association  
Oregon Public Health Institute

**Pennsylvania**

Action AIDS  
Adult Congenital Heart Association  
Alder Health Services  
American Lung Association in Pennsylvania  
City of Philadelphia Department of Public Health  
OraSure Technologies, Inc.  
Pennsylvania Public Health Association  
Reading Risk Reduction

**Rhode Island**

American Lung Association in Rhode Island  
Ocean State Action

**South Carolina**

American Lung Association in South Carolina  
Palmetto AIDS Life Support Services, Inc.  
REACH U.S. Southeastern African American Center of Excellence in the Elimination  
of Disparities in Diabetes (REACH U.S. SEA-CEED)  
South Carolina Eat Smart Move More Coalition  
South Carolina Fair Share  
South Carolina Primary Health Care Association  
South Carolina Tobacco Collaborative

**South Dakota**

American Lung Association in South Dakota

**West South Dakota Native American Organizing Project**

**Tennessee**

American Lung Association in Tennessee  
Nashville CARES  
Positive East Tennesseans  
Tennessee Association of People With AIDS

**Texas**

American Lung Association in Texas  
  
Healthy Family Initiatives  
La Fe Policy Research and Education Center  
Texas Association of Local Health Officials

**Utah**

American Lung Association in Utah  
Association for Utah Community Health

**Vermont**

American Lung Association in Vermont  
Center for Health and Learning  
Ottawaquechee Community Partnership  
Vermont Public Health Association

**Virginia**

American Lung Association in Virginia  
K.I. Services, Inc.  
Tenants and Workers United  
Virginia Organizing Project

**Washington**

American Lung Association in Washington

Childhood Obesity Prevention Coalition  
Comprehensive Health Education Foundation  
Public Health - Seattle and King County  
Public Health-Seattle & King County  
Snohomish Health District  
Thurston County Board of Health  
Washington Association of Local Public Health Officials  
Washington Health Foundation- Healthiest State in the Nation Campaign  
YWCA of Seattle – King County – Snohomish County, Seattle WA

### **West Virginia**

American Lung Association in West Virginia  
Covenant House, Inc. West Virginia  
Kanawha-Charleston Health Department  
West Virginia Primary Care Association

### **Wisconsin**

American Lung Association in Wisconsin  
Wisconsin Association of Local Health Departments and Boards  
Wisconsin Primary Health Care Association  
Wisconsin Public Health Association

### **Wyoming**

American Lung Association in Wyoming