November 16, 2006

The Honorable Thad Cochran  
Chairman, Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. Senate  
113 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Cochran:

The Committee for Education Funding and the Coalition for Health Funding, whose memberships represent key stakeholders in the programs of the Departments of Education, Health and Human Services, respectfully urge you to:

1) finish the FY 2007 Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations bill before the 109th Congress adjourns and avoid the potential of serious administrative disruption in grants and services for critically important programs for some of the nation’s most vulnerable populations;
2) ensure that the final allocation for health, education and labor programs reflects a $7 billion increase above the President’s request for these critically important activities as the attached May 8th letter to you, signed by 800 organizations, states.

The programs and services administered by the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education share a common, fundamental goal of strengthening this nation by investing in and improving the quality of life of its people. 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 and education programs. 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. Thank you.

To respond to this letter, please contact Dr. Marcia Mabec, Executive Director, Coalition for Health Funding: 703-709-3001, or Dr. Edward Kealy, Executive Director, Committee for Education Funding: 202-383-0083.

Sincerely,

Julio C. Abreu  
President  
Coalition for Health Funding  
www.aamec.org/advocacy/healthfunding

Stephanie Giesecke  
President  
Committee for Education Funding  
www.cfg.org

cc: Sen. Specter  
Sen. Harkin
May 8, 2006

The Honorable Thad Cochran
Chairman, Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
113 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Cochran:

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.

To respond to this letter, please contact Dr. Marcia Mabee, Executive Director, Coalition for Health Funding: 703-709-3001, or Ed Kealy, Executive Director, Committee for Education Funding: 202-383-0083.
Respectfully,

AAALAC International
AARP
Abbott Laboratories
AcademyHealth
Acadia Pharmaceuticals
Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research
Adams County Economic Development, Inc.
Adapted Physical Activity Council
AdvMed (Advanced Medical Technology Association)
Advocate Health Care
Affymetrix
AIDS Action
Albert Einstein College of Medicine of Yeshiva University
Allegheny-Singer Research Institute
Alliance for Aging Research
Alliance for Children and Families
Alliance for Excellent Education
Alliance for Excellent Education
Alliance for Lupus Research
Ahmanson US, Inc.
Alpha-I Foundation
Alzheimer's Association
Ambulatory Pediatric Association
AMDec-Academic Medicine Development Co.
American on the Move Foundation
American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology
American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
American Academy of Emergency Medicine
American Academy of Family Physicians
American College of Cardiology
American College of Clinical Pharmacy
American College of Medical Genetics
American College of Neuropsychopharmacology
American College of Nurse Practitioners
American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
American College of Osteopathic Internists
American College of Physicians
American College of Preventive Medicine
American College of Sports Medicine
American College of Surgeons
American Council of the Blind
American Council on Education
American Counseling Association
American Dental Association
American Dental Education Association
American Dental Hygienists' Association
American Diabetes Association
American Dietetic Association
American Educational Research Association
American Federation for Aging Research
American Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO)
American Federation of School Administrators
American Federation State, County and Municipal Employees
American Federation of Teachers
American Gastroenterological Association
American Geriatrics Society
American Group Psychotherapy Association
American Academy of Neurology
American Academy of Nurse Practitioners
American Academy of Nursing
American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery
American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry
American Academy of Pediatrics
American Academy of Physician Assistants
American Association of Practicing Psychiatrists
American Association for Cancer Research
American Association for Dental Research
American Association for Geriatric Psychiatry
American Association for Respiratory Care
American Association for the Advancement of Science
American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases
American Association for Thoracic Surgery
American Association of Anatomists
American Association of Children's Residential Centers
American Association of Colleges of Nursing
American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine
American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy
American Association of Colleges of Podiatric Medicine
American Association of Community Colleges
American Association of Immunologists
American Association of Nurse Anesthetists
American Association of People with Disabilities
American Association of Public Health Dentistry
American Association of School Administrators
American Association of State Colleges and Universities
American Brain Coalition
American Cancer Society
American Chronic Pain 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 Informatics Association
American Medical Student Association
American Mental Health Counselors Association
American Music Therapy Association
American Nephrology Nurses' Association
American Occupational Therapy Association
American Optometric Association
American Organization of Nurse Executives
American Orthopsychiatry Association
American Osteopathic Association
American Pain Foundation
American Pediatric Society
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 Psychoanalytic 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 Laboratory Science
American Society for Clinical Pathology
American Society for Matrix Biology
American Society for Microbiology
American Society for Nutrition
American Society for Nutritional Sciences
American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics
American Society for Virology
American Society of Addiction Medicine
American Society of Clinical Oncology
American Society of Human Genetics
American Society of Hypertension, Inc.
American Society of Nephrology
American Society of Pediatric Nephrology
American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene
American Sociological Association
American Speech-Language-Hearing Association
American Student Association of Community Colleges
American Therapeutic Recreation Association
American Thoracic Society
American Transplant Foundation
American Society for Medical Progress
America's Blood Centers
amfAR, The Foundation for AIDS Research
Amplify Coalition of America
AO North America
AORN, Association of PeriOperative Registered Nurses
APTS Action, Inc.
Arizona State University College of Nursing
Arthritis Foundation
Arthritis Foundation, Rocky Mountain Chapter
Asia Society
Association for Career and Technical Education
Association for Career and Technical Education
Association for Clinical Research Training
Association for Medical School Pharmacology Chairs
Association for Prevention Teaching and Research
Association for Psychological Science
Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology
Association for the Accreditation of Human Research Protection Programs, Inc.
Association of Academic Health Centers
Association of Air Medical Services
Association of American Cancer Institutes
Association of American Medical Colleges
Association of American Physicians
Association of American Universities
Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges
Association of Anatomy, Cell Biology and Neurobiology Chairpersons
Association of Anesthesiology Program Directors
Association of Biomedical Resource Facilities
Association of Black Cardiologists
Association of Chairs of Departments of Physiology
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 Independent Research Institutes
Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs
Association of Medical School Microbiology and Immunology Chairs
Association of Medical School Pediatric Department Chairs
Association of Minority Health Professions Schools
Association of Organ Procurement Organizations
Association of Professors of Dermatology
Association of Professors of Human and Medical Genetics
Association of Professors of Medicine
Association of Public Health Laboratories
Association of Public Television Stations
Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry
Association of Schools of Allied Health Professions
Association of Schools of Public Health
Association of State and Territorial Health Officials
Association of University Centers on Disabilities
Association of University Programs in Health Administration
Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses
Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America
AstraZeneca LP
Athena Diagnostics
Aurora Economic Development Council
Baylor College of Medicine
Baylor College of Medicine Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences
Biogen Idec
Biogen Idec
Biomedical Research Association
Biophysical Society
Biotechnology Industry Organization
BloodCenter of Wisconsin, Inc.
Blue Cross and Blue Shield Foundation on Health Care
Boston Biomedical Research Institute
Boston University School of Dental Medicine
Boston University School of Public Health
Boys Town National Research Hospital
Brain Injury Association of America
Brigham and Women's Hospital
Bristol-Myers Squibb Company
Buck Institute for Age Research
Burns & Allen Research Institute
Burrill & Company
Burroughs Wellcome Fund
California Biomedical Research Association
California Department of Education
California Institute for Regenerative Medicine
California Institute of Technology
California Medical Association
California Service Employees Association
California Wellness Foundation
Campaign for Medical Research
Campaign for Public Health
Canon U.S. Life Sciences, Inc.
CARUS Foundation, Inc.
Case Western Reserve University School of Dentistry
Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine
Center for Emerging Technologies
Center for the Advancement of Health
CIFIDS Association of America
Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science
Charles River Laboratories
Child & Adolescent Bipolar Foundation
Child Welfare League of America
Children & Adults with Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder
Children's Dental Health Project
Children's Memorial Research Center
Children's Neurobiological Solutions Foundation
Children's Research Institute (Columbia)
Children's Research Institute (Washington)
Christopher Reeve Foundation
City and County of Denver
City of Hope National Medical Center
Clinical Social Work Federation
Clinical Social Work Guild
Coalition for American Trauma Care
Coalition for Comprehensive School improvement
Coalition for Health Funding
Coalition for Health Services Research
Coalition for the Advancement of Health Through Behavioral and Social Science Research
Coalition of Heritable Disorders of Connective Tissue
Coalition to Protect Research
Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory
Coleman Institute for Cognitive Disabilities, University of Colorado System
Colfax Marathon Partnership, Inc.
Colorado Bioscience Association
Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade
Colorado State University
Columbia University
Columbia University School of Dental and Oral Surgery
Columbus Children's Research Institute
Committee for Education Funding
Communications Workers of America
Community Health Partnership
Conference of Boston Teaching Hospitals
Connecticut United for Research Excellence, Inc.
Conner Frantic X Foundation
Consortium for School Networking
Consortium of Physical Education and Recreation for Individuals with Disabilities
Consortium of Social Science Associations
Cooley's Anemia Foundation
Cornell Institute for Medical Research
Costello Syndrome Family Network
Council for Exceptional Children
Council for the Advancement of Nursing Science
Council of Chief State School Officers
Council of Great City Schools
Council of Higher Education Assistance Organizations
Council of Parent Attorneys and Advocates
Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists
Council of the American Society for Investigative Pathology
Council of the Great City Schools
Council for Opportunity in Education
Council for Opportunity in Education
Creighton University
Creighton University School of Medicine
Critical Illness and Trauma Foundation
Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America
CURE (Citizens United for Research in Epilepsy)
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation
Damon Runyon Cancer Research Foundation
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
Dartmouth Medical School
DENTSPLY International
Department of Professional Employees, AFL-CIO
Digene Corporation
Digestive Disease National Coalition
Discovery Partners International
Division for Early Childhood of the Council for Exceptional Children
doheny Eye Institute
Drexel University College of Medicine
Drexel University School of Public Health
Duke University Medical Center
Dystonia Medical Research Foundation
East Tennessee State University James H. Quillen College of Medicine
Eastern Association for the Surgery of Trauma
Eating Disorders Coalition for Research, Policy & Action
Ell Lilly and Company
Emergency Nurses Association
Emory University Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing
Emory University Rollins School of Public Health
Emory University School of Medicine
Epilepsy Foundation
ESA, Inc.
Fairfax County Economic Development Authority
Family Voices
Family Cures, The Center for Accelerating Medical Solutions
FED ED
Federation of American Scientists
Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology
Federation of State Medical Boards of the United States, Inc.
Fibrosis Redevelopment Authority
Florida Atlantic University Division of Research
Forest Laboratories, Inc.
Foundation Fighting Blindness, Inc.
Fox Chase Cancer Center
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center
Friends of Cancer Research
Friends of the National Institute for Dental and Craniofacial Research
Friends of the National Institute of Nursing Research
Friends of the National Institute on Aging
Friends of the National Library of Medicine
Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Education Network
General Clinical Research Centers Program Directors Association
Genetic Alliance
Genetic Alliance Biobank
Genetics Society of America
George Mason University
Georgetown University Medical Center
GlaxoSmithKline
Global Health Council
Gold Cross/ Mayo Medical Transport
Greater Colorado Springs Economic Development Corporation
Guillain Barre Syndrome Foundation International
Gynecologic Cancer Foundation
Harvard Medical School
Harvard University School of Dental Medicine
Harvard University School of Public Health
Hauptman-Woodward Medical Research Institute, Inc.
Health Professions and Nursing Education Coalition
National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities
National Association of Local Boards of Health
National Association of Medical Minority Educators, Inc.
National Association of Mental Health Planning and Advisory Councils
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
National Association of Public Hospitals and Health Systems
National Association of School Psychologists
National Association of Secondary School Principals
National Association of Social Workers
National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors
National Association of State Directors of Cancer
Technical Education Consortium
National Association of State Directors of Special Education
National Association of State EMS Officials
National Association of State Head Injury Administrators
National Association of State Student Grant and Aid Programs
National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges
National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators
National Athletic Trainers’ Association
National Business Group on Health
National Caucus of Basic Biomedical Science Chairs
National Center for Learning Disabilities
National Coalition for Osteoporosis and Related Bone Diseases
National Coalition of STD Directors
National Committee for Quality Health Care
National Council for Literacy
National Council for the Social Studies
National Disability Rights Network
National Down Syndrome Society
National Education Association
National Education Knowledge Industry Association
National Electrical Manufacturers Association
National Emphysema/COPD Association
National Foundation for Ectodermal Dysplasia
National Health Council
National HEP CAMP Association
National Hispanic Health Foundation
National Hispanic Medical Association
National Jewish Medical and Research Center
National Kidney Foundation
National League for Nursing
National Marfan Foundation
National Mental Health Association
National Middle School Association
National Multiple Sclerosis Society
National Network of Health Career Programs in Two-Year Colleges
National Organization for Rare Disorders
National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health
National Osteoporosis Foundation
National Pharmaceutical Council
National Primate Research Centers
National Prostate Cancer Coalition
National Psoriasis Foundation
National PTA
National Quality Forum
National Rehabilitation Association
National Rural Education Advocacy Coalition
National Rural Education Association
National Rural Health Association
National School Boards Association
National Sleep Foundation
Nebraskans for Research
Nemours
NephCure Foundation
Neuropathy Association
Neuropathy Research Foundation
New Jersey Association for Biomedical Research
New Jersey Dental School
New York Blood Center
New York College of Osteopathic Medicine
New York State Association of County Health Officials
New York University College of Dentistry
New York-Presbyterian Hospital
North American Primary Care Research Group
North Carolina Association for Biomedical Research
Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine
Northwest Association for Biomedical Research
Northwestern University, The Feinberg School of Medicine
Nova Southeastern University College of Dental Medicine
Novartis Pharmaceuticals
Nurses Organization of Veterans Affairs
Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation
Oncology Nursing Society
Oral Health America
Oregon Health & Science University
Oregon Health & Science University School of Dentistry
Oregon Health & Science University School of Nursing
Oregon Research Institute
Orthopaedic Trauma Association
Osteogenesis Imperfecta Foundation
Ovarian Cancer National Alliance
Oxford Bioscience Partners
Pacific Health Research Institute
Pancreatic Cancer Action Network
Paralyzed Veterans of America
Parent Project Muscular Dystrophy
Parkinson’s Action Network
Parkinson’s Disease Foundation
Partnership for Prevention
Pennsylvania Society for Biomedical Research
Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America
Population Association of America/Association of Population Centers
Post-Polio Health International
Pre-K Now
Prevent Blindness America
Professional Employees Department, (APL-CIO)
Prostate Cancer Foundation
Public Broadcasting Stations
Pulmonary Hypertension Association
PXE International
RAMIS Health
Reading Is Fundamental
Reading Recovery Council of North America
Rebecca Project
Research Institute for Independent Living
United Auto Workers
United Cerebral Palsy
United Jewish Communities
Association of Jewish Family & Children's Agencies
United Spinal Association
University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Medicine
University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Nursing
University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Public Health
University of Arizona College of Medicine
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
University of California
University of California, Berkeley
University of California, Berkeley School of Public Health
University of California, Irvine School of Medicine
University of California, Los Angeles School of Dentistry
University of California, Los Angeles School of Medicine
University of California, San Diego School of Medicine/Health Sciences
University of California, San Francisco
University of California, San Francisco School of Dentistry
University of California, San Francisco School of Nursing
University of California, Santa Cruz
University of Cincinnati Medical Center
University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center
University of Colorado at Denver and HSC School of Dentistry
University of Colorado at Denver and HSC School of Nursing
University of Colorado System
University of Connecticut Health Center School of Dental Medicine
University of Connecticut School of Medicine
University of Florida
University of Florida College of Dentistry
University of Georgia
University of Illinois at Chicago
University of Illinois at Chicago College of Dentistry
University of Illinois at Chicago College of Nursing
University of Illinois at Chicago School of Public Health
University of Kansas
University of Kansas Medical Center
University of Kansas Medical Center School of Nursing
University of Kentucky
University of Kentucky College of Dentistry
University of Louisville
University of Louisville School of Dentistry
University of Maryland at Baltimore
University of Maryland College of Dental Surgery
University of Maryland at Baltimore School of Nursing
University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey
University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey School of Public Health
University of Miami
University of Michigan
University of Michigan Medical School
University of Michigan School of Dentistry
University of Michigan School of Public Health
University of Minnesota School of Public Health
University of Missouri at Kansas City School of Dentistry
University of Montana School of Pharmacy and Allied Health Sciences
University of Nebraska Medical Center
University of Nebraska Medical Center College of Dentistry
University of Nevada, Las Vegas School of Dental Medicine
University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Dentistry
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Medicine
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Public Health
University of North Dakota
University of North Texas Health Science Center
University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine
University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine
University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing
University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health
University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine
University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine
University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry
University of Rochester School of Nursing
University of South Carolina Office of Research and Health Sciences
University of South Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences
University of South Florida
University of South Florida College of Nursing
University of Southern California School of Dentistry
University of Utah Health Sciences Center
University of Utah HSC School of Medicine
University of Vermont College of Medicine
University of Washington
University of Washington School of Dentistry
University of Washington School of Medicine
University of Washington School of Nursing
University of Washington School of Public Health and Community Medicine
Van Andel Research Institute
Vanderbilt University Medical Center
Vanderbilt University School of Nursing
Virginia Commonwealth University School of Dentistry
Voices for America’s Children
Wake Forest University School of Medicine
Washington University in St. Louis Center for Health Policy
Washington University in St. Louis School of Medicine
Weill Medical College of Cornell University
West Virginia University Health Sciences Center
West Virginia University School of Dentistry
Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research
Wisconsin Association for Biomedical Research & Education
Woodruff Health Sciences Center
Wright State University School of Medicine
Yale University School of Medicine
Yale University School of Nursing