

January 29, 2018

The Honorable Paul Ryan  
Speaker  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Minority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Charles Schumer  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Ryan, Minority Leader Pelosi, Majority Leader McConnell and Minority Leader Schumer:

On January 22, 2018, the United States Congress once again passed a short-term measure to maintain funding for the federal government, this time through February 8, 2018. While it contained a critical extension of funding for the Children's Health Insurance Program, it failed to reauthorize and fund several other key expired health care programs and policies, each of which are vital to our health care system.

This lapse in authorization and funding, coupled with the continuous enactment of short-term patches, has put in jeopardy health care services for seniors on Medicare and patients in underserved communities, resources for health care providers in rural communities, and programs aimed at training primary care physicians.

Among the programs that have been allowed to lapse or are awaiting reauthorization and funding are:

- Community Health Center Fund
- Medicaid Disproportionate Share Hospital payment funding
- Medicare Therapy Cap Extension
- Teaching Health Center Graduate Medical Education Program
- Maternal Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program
- National Health Service Corps
- Physician Fee Schedule GPCI Parity Policy

The undersigned organizations call on you, as leaders of the United States House of Representatives and Senate, to ensure the inclusion of provisions that will reauthorize and fund these important programs in any government funding legislation approved on or before February 8, 2018.

These programs and policies enjoy strong bipartisan support and many have been approved for reauthorization and funding by the appropriate committees of jurisdiction, during the current Congress. The continued lack of predictable funding for these programs and policies stands to negatively impact the lives of millions of people and communities all across the nation.

We urge you to prioritize the continuation of these programs and policies and take the appropriate steps to ensure that each are reauthorized and funded as part of the next government funding bill.

Sincerely,

ADAP Advocacy Association  
Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics  
American Academy of Family Physicians  
American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine  
American Association of Teaching Health Centers  
American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists  
American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians  
American College of Osteopathic Internists  
American College of Physicians  
American College of Rheumatology  
American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees  
American Medical Student Association  
American Nurses Association  
American Osteopathic Association  
American Physical Therapy Association  
American Psychological Association  
American Speech-Language-Hearing Association  
America's Essential Hospitals  
Association of American Medical Colleges  
Association of Clinicians for the Underserved  
Association of Community Affiliated Plans  
Association of Departments of Family Medicine  
Association of Family Medicine Residency Directors  
Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs  
Association of State and Territorial Health Officials  
Center for Law and Social Policy  
Child Welfare League of America  
Coalition on Human Needs  
Community Access National Network  
Every Child By Two – Carter/Bumpers Champions for Immunization  
Families USA  
First Focus  
HealthHIV  
Hep B United  
Hepatitis B Foundation  
Institute for Child Success  
The Jewish Federations of North America  
Johns Hopkins Center for American Indian Health  
Justice in Aging  
March of Dimes  
Massachusetts Medical Society  
National Alliance of Children's Trust and Prevention Funds  
National Association for Addiction Professionals  
National Association for Children's Behavioral Health  
National Association for the Support of Long Term Care  
National Association of Community Health Centers  
National Association of County and City Health Officials  
National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health  
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners  
National Board for Certified Counselors  
National Coalition for LGBT Health

National Coalition on Health Care  
National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare  
National Consumers League  
National Health Care for the Homeless Council  
National Hispanic Medical Association  
National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health  
National Partnership for Women and Families  
National Patient Advocate Foundation  
National Physicians Alliance  
National WIC Association  
NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice  
North American Primary Care Research Group  
Nurse-Family Partnership  
Parents as Teachers  
Patient-Centered Primary Care Collaborative  
Prevent Blindness  
Prevent Child Abuse America  
Prevention Institute  
Renal Physicians Association  
Services Employees International Union  
Society of General Internal Medicine  
Society of Teachers of Family Medicine  
UnityPoint Health  
1,000 Days