



May **, 2026

Dear Chair Cole, Chair Collins, Vice Chair Murray, and Ranking Member DeLauro:

The *** undersigned organizations – representing the full range of stakeholders supporting the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services (HHS), and Education and Related Agencies appropriations bill – urge you to continue your leadership in supporting families, communities, and local economies with a robust fiscal year (FY) 2027 allocation for the Labor-HHS-Education Subcommittee that ensures these programs can meet vital needs. We urge Congress to counter the many unilateral cuts and changes to these federal programs the Administration made in the last year that have already undermined Congress's clear intention to invest in these vital services, and that do not reflect the public's support for these programs. While we were generally pleased to see Congress, on a bipartisan basis, reject many of the Administration's proposed cuts in FY 2026, we urge you to again reject the Administration's FY 2027 request to slash these vital investments and instead to provide the Labor-HHS-Education Subcommittees with an FY 2027 allocation that at least reverses past spending cuts in order to provide for the necessary services and programs this subcommittee oversees.

The programs and services funded by the Labor-HHS-Education Subcommittee have a profound impact on health and well-being, child development, educational and skills attainment, labor force participation, and economic productivity. However, these programs historically have been shortchanged in the appropriations process, especially after spending caps were first enacted in 2011 and then again under the caps for 2024 and 2025. In the last year, the Administration has withheld and cancelled funding for many of this Subcommittee's programs and has fired many of the federal employees who oversee these programs, ensure that federal funding is provided as the law intended, and safeguard citizens' access to programs and services – even though Congress has essentially maintained funding for many of these programs at the same level for three years. While we recognize and are thankful for provisions in the FY 2026 bill that aim to prevent these types of actions moving forward within some departments and agencies, we urge Congress to expand upon them to include in the FY 2027 bill provisions that insist that the Administration follow authorizing and appropriations law across all federal agencies, release the funding Congress enacted, provide the services required by statutes to all eligible entities, and maintain properly trained federal staff who are able to administer these services in an effective and timely manner.

The need for these key investments along with language that ensures that Congressionally-approved appropriations reach local communities is clear after they have been underfunded by billions of dollars in recent years as funding for essential services provided by the Labor-HHS-Education bill has not kept pace with population growth or inflation. The effects of chronic underfunding have impacted programs that support education, public health, health research, workforce development, and social services, and the President's FY27 proposals would make things worse for many programs. The effects include:

- Eroding the public health and research infrastructure and workforce, limiting our ability to address disease prevention, respond to future health crises, and monitor ongoing health trends for new and emerging threats.
- Hindering efforts to address opportunity gaps and accelerate learning, to raise student achievement, to address shortages in the education workforce, and to increase high school

graduation rates, college affordability, and college completion. The American public [opposes eliminating the Department of Education](#) and [supports more education funding](#), not less.

- Providing childcare to only one in nine eligible children under age 6, with childcare providers paid so little that one in four early childhood educators takes a second job to make ends meet.
- Leaving far too many low-income children without access to high quality preschool and other early learning opportunities.
- Compounding on recent withholding of funding for lifesaving medical research, further distancing America from its longstanding global leadership in finding cures.
- Risking our ability to prepare for, monitor, and respond to public health threats that transcend international borders.
- Cutting efforts to adequately respond to ongoing opioid and fentanyl epidemics and infectious disease outbreaks, such as measles and tuberculosis.
- Reducing funding for mental health services, including services for children and for the homeless, and reducing funding for substance use disorder treatment, threatening continued progress in reducing overdose deaths.
- Putting many people with disabilities and older Americans at risk of losing their freedom, independence, and dignity without adequate funding for programs administered by the Administration for Community Living, such as Independent Living, Developmental Disabilities Assistance Act, and Older Americans Act programs. The result would be a return to more institutionalization, higher costs, and widespread harm to individuals and families.
- Neglecting 17.7 million Americans who are unemployed, underemployed, or want a job but are out of the labor force. This is more than two times the 6.9 million job openings employers currently report. In a slowing economy, federal workforce investments are what connect sidelined workers to the industries that are still hiring.
- Limiting the ability of jobseekers—many with the greatest barriers to employment — from accessing the critical workforce and job training services that Congress overwhelmingly authorized in 2014. The U.S. invests less than every other industrialized country in active labor market policy, except for Mexico and Chile, and would need to invest \$80 billion annually just to reach the median of our international peers.
- Ignoring the needs of individuals who find themselves without a high school credential and who need a pathway back to education, employment, and full participation in their communities.
- Inadequate funding for heating and cooling assistance, despite increased costs for families. The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), the federal program providing help with residential energy costs, only has enough funding to serve 1 in 6 eligible households, with the Administration proposing to cut off assistance for 6 million households by zeroing out LIHEAP funding despite record high energy costs.
- While Congress started to reverse Maternal and Child Health Block Grant funding losses, funding remained flat at about 10 percent below the levels in FY 2010 when taking inflation into account.
- Failing to keep pace with growing child welfare needs, especially as communities grapple with the destructive impact of substance use disorders on families. Child Welfare Services funding, for example, has been flat-funded for years, leaving it well over 35 percent below the FY 2010 level, adjusted for inflation.

We urge you to commit to improving the lives of Americans with an allocation for the Labor-HHS-Education bill for FY 2027 that allows the bill to provide vital services for the American public. If you have questions about this letter, please contact:

- Jared Bass, Committee for Education Funding (bass@cef.org);
- Meredith Dodson, Coalition on Human Needs (mdodson@chn.org);
- Eric Gascho, Coalition for Health Funding (egascho@dc-crd.com); or
- Gail Silberglied, Campaign to Invest in America's Workforce (SilbergliedG@nawb.org).

The letter remains open for signers until May 15, 2026. The list below reflects organizations that have signed on as of 10 AM ET, May 12, 2026.

National organizations:

AACTE (American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education)

AASA, The School Superintendents Association

AcademyHealth

ADAP Advocacy Association

Adult Numeracy Network

AFT: Education, Healthcare, Public Services

After-School All-Stars

Afterschool Alliance

AiArthritis

Alianza Americas

All4Ed

Alliance for Vision Research

Alliance to Reclaim Our Schools

American Academy of Pediatrics

American Association for Dental, Oral, and Craniofacial Research

American Association of Colleges of Nursing

American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine

American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU)

American Association of Veterinary Medical Colleges

American Brain Coalition

American Council on Education

American Friends Service Committee

American Kidney Fund

American Library Association

American Music Therapy Association

American Psychological Association Services

American Public Health Association

American School Counselor Association

American Society of Hematology

American Thoracic Society

ARPA-H GO
Arthritis Foundation
Association for Career and Technical Education
Association for Multicultural Science Education
Association for Prevention Teaching and Research
Association of Assistive Technology Act Programs
Association of Community College Trustees
Association of Farmworker Opportunity Programs (AFOP)
Association of Latino Administrators and Superintendents
Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs
Association of Population Centers
Association of School Business Officials International (ASBO)
Association of School Psychologists of Pennsylvania
Association of State and Territorial Health Officials
Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America
Autistic Self Advocacy Network
Autistic Women & Nonbinary Network
Autoimmune Association
AVAC
Big Cities Health Coalition
CenterLink
Chiefs for Change
Child Welfare League of America
Children's Defense Fund
Clearinghouse on Women's Issues
Coalition for National Trauma Research
Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL)
Committee for Children
Committee for Education Funding (CEF)
Community Access National Network
Compassion & Choices
Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, U.S. Region
Council for Exceptional Children
Council for Opportunity in Education
Council of Administrators of Special Education
Council of the Great City Schools
Dravet Syndrome Foundation
EDGE Partners
EdTrust
Endocrine Society
Endometriosis Association

Epilepsy Foundation of America
Family Values @ Work
Fight Colorectal Cancer
First Focus Campaign for Children
Foster Care Training Today
Gerontological Society of America
Green & Healthy Homes Initiative
HealthHIV
Healthy Teen Network
Hemophilia Federation of America
Higher Education Consortium of Special Education (HECSE)
Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities
HIV Medicine Association
HIV+Hepatitis Policy Institute
Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy Association
IC&RC
Institute for Policy Studies' Poverty Project
James' Place Inc.
Just Solutions
Justice + Joy National Collaborative
KIPP Foundation
Knowledge Alliance
Lakeshore Foundation
Lawyers for Good Government
LEAD Coalition (Leaders Engaged on Alzheimer's Disease)
Lupus and Allied Diseases Association, Inc.
Magnet Schools of America
Mental Health Transformation Alliance
Mountain Plains Adult Education Association
NAACP
NAESM, Inc.
NARST: A global organization for improving science education through research
NASTAD
National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd
National Association for College Admission Counseling
National Association for Music Education
National Association of Counsel for Children
National Association of Federally Impacted Schools (NAFIS)
National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities
National Association of RSVP Directors
National Association of School Psychologists

National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP)
National Association of Social Workers
National Association of Workforce Boards (NAWB)
National Board for Professional Teaching Standards
National Center for Learning Disabilities
National Center for Teacher Residencies
National Center on Adoption and Permanency
National Coalition for Literacy
National Coalition for the Homeless
National Coalition of STD Directors
National Council for Community and Education Partnerships
National Council for Mental Wellbeing
National Council of Jewish Women
National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM)
National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence
National Dance Education Organization
National Disability Institute
National Disability Rights Network (NDRN)
National Education Association
National Energy Assistance Directors Association
National Family Planning & Reproductive Health Association
National Health Care for the Homeless Council
National Health Council
National High School Equivalency Program (HEP)/College Assistance Migrant Program (CAMP)
Association
National HIV/AIDS Housing Coalition
National Kidney Foundation
National Korean American Service and Education Consortium
National Multiple Sclerosis Society
National Nurse-Led Care Consortium
National Organization for Women
National Organization of State Associations for Children
National Patient Advocate Foundation
National Psoriasis Foundation
National Resource Center on Domestic Violence
National Rural Education Association
National School Boards Association
National Science Teaching Association (NSTA)
National Skills Coalition
National Summer Learning Association (NSLA)
National Women's Law Center Action Fund

National Youth Employment Coalition (NN4Y)
Natural Science Collections Alliance
NBJC
NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice
Organization for Latino Health Advocacy
Parkinson's Foundation
People Power United
People's Action Institute
Planned Parenthood Federation of America
PrEP4All
Prevent Blindness
Prevention Institute
ProLiteracy Worldwide
Public Advocacy for Kids (PAK)
Public Health Institute
Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation
Results for America
Save HIV Funding Campaign
SchoolHouse Connection
Service Employees International Union
Society For Biomaterials
Society for Neuroscience
Society for Public Health Education
Society of Behavioral Medicine
TASH
Teach For America
Teacher Education Division of the Council for Exceptional Children
The Advocacy Institute
The Arc of the US
The Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO)
The Center for Learner Equity
The Coalition for Hemophilia B
The Forum for Youth Investment
The Hope Center for Student Basic Needs
Tourette Association of America
Treatment Communities of America
Trust for America's Health
United Church of Christ
United for Cures
Voice for Adoption
Voices of Health Care Action

YMCA of the USA
Youth First Justice Collaborative
Youth Law Center
ZERO Prostate Cancer

State and local organizations:

AAPI Equity Alliance
Access Technologies, Inc.
Advocates for Basic Legal Equality, Inc.
Advocates for Children of New York
AIDS Foundation Chicago
Alabama Association of School Psychologists
Aliento Education Fund
Arizona Association of Lifelong Learning
Arizona Association of School Psychologists
Arizona Bleeding Disorders
Black Children's Institute of Tennessee
Bleeding Disorders Association of South Carolina
Bleeding Disorders Foundation of North Carolina
California Association of Science Educators (CASE)
California Child Care Resource & Referral Network
California Small School Districts Association
Cares of Southwest Michigan
Center for Independence of the Disabled, New York
Cerebral Palsy Associations of NYS
Charlotte Trans Health
Child Care Resource Center California
Children's League of Massachusetts
Chinese for Affirmative Action
Church of St. Francis Xavier NYC
Citizens' Committee for Children of New York
Coalition of CA Welfare Rights Organizations
College and Career Readiness Center – College of Eastern Idaho
Colorado Association of Science Teachers
Delaware Association of School Psychologists
Disability Law Center
Disability Law Center of Utah
Disability Law Center, Inc.
Disability Rights Arizona
Disability Rights Arkansas
Disability Rights California

Disability Rights Center – NH
Disability Rights Center of Kansas
Disability Rights Florida
Disability Rights Iowa
Disability Rights Louisiana
Disability Rights Michigan
Disability Rights Mississippi
Disability Rights Montana
Disability Rights Nebraska
Disability Rights New Jersey
Disability Rights New Mexico
Disability Rights North Carolina
Disability Rights Oregon
Disability Rights Pennsylvania
Disability Rights Rhode Island
Disability Rights South Carolina
Disability Rights Washington
Disability Rights Wisconsin
East Boston Social Centers
East Cascades Works
Family Focus
Federation of Associations in Behavioral and Brain Sciences
Florida Chapter National Organization for Women
Fresh Youth Initiatives
Friends of Ruth B. Swann Park
Frontier Centre For Community Empowerment FROCECE
Gathering of Southeast WI
Georgia Alliance to End Homelessness, Inc.
Georgia Association of School Psychologists
Glide Foundation
Great Plains Association for College Admission Counseling
Greater Orlando National Organization for Women
GreenTree Co-op Market
Grow Food Northampton
Hawaii Appleseed
Hawaii Children's Action Network Speaks!
Hawaii Disability Rights Center
Hemophilia Foundation of Southern California
Hoosier Association of Science Teachers, Inc.
Housing Works, Inc.
Human Service Chamber of Franklin County

Illinois Alliance of Administrators of Special Education
Illinois Science Teaching Association
Independence Alliance
Indiana Disability Rights
Iowa School Psychologists Association
Jewish Family Service of Colorado
Kansas Enrichment Network
Kentucky Association for Psychology in Schools
Kentucky Protection and Advocacy
Lakeside Community Committee
Lewis University
Los Angeles Unified School District
Louisiana School Psychological Association
Maine Adult Education Association
Mental Health Association Oklahoma
Metro New York Health Care for All
Michigan Association of School Psychologists
Michigan Science Teachers Association
Mid Iowa Planning Alliance - Central Iowa Workforce Development Board
Mississippi Low Income Child Care Initiative
National Council of Jewish Women Los Angeles
National Council of Jewish Women-PA
NDALL: North Dakota Association for Lifelong Learning
Neighborhood House
Nevada Disability Advocacy & Law Center
New Jersey Association for College Admissions Counseling
New Jersey Association of Mental Health and Addiction Agencies, Inc. (NJAMHAA)
New Jersey Association of School Psychologists
New Mexico Adult Education Association
New York Association of School Psychologists (NYASP)
NM Comunidades en Accion y de Fe
North Dakota Protection & Advocacy Project
Oasis Legal Services
Oconee Food Council
Ohio School Psychologists Association
Oklahoma School Psychological Association
Orange County United Way
Oregon School Psychologists Association (OSPA)
Oregon Workforce Partnership
Our Children Oregon
PA Association for Adult Continuing Education

Pacific Northwest Association for College Admission Counseling (PNACAC)
Pennsylvania Association for College Admission Counseling (PACAC)
Philly Neighborhood Networks
Praxis Health Empowerment
PRE4CLE
Promise Arizona
Putnam Progressives
Rhode Island Coalition for Children and Families
Rhode Island School Psychologists Association
Rogue Workforce Partnership
Rural Schools Association of New York State
San Francisco AIDS Foundation
Science Council of NYC
Serving At-risk Families Everywhere, Inc.
SEWA-AIFW
Silver State Equality
Sisters of St. Joseph Healthcare Foundation
Sisters of the Presentation, Dubuque, IA
Small School Districts' Association
South Carolina Association of School Psychologists
South Carolina Program for Infant/Toddler Care
Spanish American Center
Spring Lake Store
St. Matthew Trinity Lunchtime Ministry
Sunnyside Community Services
Tennessee Hemophilia & Bleeding Disorder Foundation
Texas Association of School Psychologists
The Arc of Aurora
The Montana Association of School Psychologists
The Ohio Olmstead Task Force
Turning Point Inc.
United Neighborhood Houses
University of Minnesota - Twin Cities
Urban League of Greater Philadelphia
Utah Association of School Psychologists
Utah Science Teaching Association
Utahns Against Hunger
Vivent Health
Voices of Hope, Inc.
Washington Assistive Technology Act Program (WATAP)
Washington State Association of School Psychologists

Willamette Workforce Partnership
Wisconsin Bleeding Disorders Network
Women Who Never Give Up
Workforce Development Board of HMO, Inc.