



January 19, 2022

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Leader Schumer, Minority Leader McCarthy, and Minority Leader McConnell:

As the expiration of the current Continuing Resolution approaches on February 18, the Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA) and the HIV Medicine Association (HIVMA) strongly urge you to enact a final FY2022 omnibus appropriations bill and avoid further delays in much needed increases in vital efforts to combat infectious diseases (ID) threats, including the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, growing antimicrobial resistance, the HIV epidemic and infections associated with opioid use.

As the Omicron surge overwhelms our health care system and as the number of Americans who have died from COVID-19 nears one million, our 12,000 members, including ID physicians, scientists, researchers and public health experts call on you to avoid additional Continuing Resolutions that jeopardize the predictability that researchers and public health departments require to advance scientific breakthroughs and protect our communities. It is critically important that a final FY2022 omnibus funding bill provides full funding for domestic and global infectious diseases and HIV programs across the Department of Health and Human Services, the State Department, and the U.S. Agency for International Development necessary to protect public health; prevent, prepare for and respond to outbreaks and other emergencies; spur biomedical research; and support early career ID scientists. Senate and House FY2022 proposals contain urgently needed new investments—including for infectious disease concerns that have been negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, such as hospital acquired infections, infections linked to drug use and sexually transmitted infections. In addition, a failure to deliver these resources will further weaken our already overtaxed health care and public health systems.

We urge you to enact a FY2022 omnibus funding bill. The time is now to ensure the availability of increased federal resources critical to prevent and respond to infectious diseases threats that could endanger patient safety, public health and national security. If you have questions or need more information, please don't hesitate to contact Lisa Cox, IDSA Government Relations Director with IDSA at lcx@idsociety.org, or Jose Rodriguez, Senior Policy and Advocacy Manager with HIVMA at jrodriguez@hivma.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. McQuillen".

Daniel P. McQuillen, MD, FIDSA
President, IDSA

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marwan Haddad".

Marwan Haddad, MD, MPH
Chair, HIVMA

Cc: The Honorable Patrick Leahy
The Honorable Richard Shelby
The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
The Honorable Kay Granger
The Honorable Patty Murray
The Honorable Roy Blunt
The Honorable Tom Cole
The Honorable Barbara Lee
The Honorable Hal Rogers
The Honorable Chris Coons
The Honorable Lindsey Graham