



Nov. 7, 2023

The Honorable Chuck Schumer Senator Majority Leader United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

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

The Honorable Patty Murray Senate Appropriations Committee Chair United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kay Granger House Appropriations Committee Chair U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Mike Johnson Speaker of the House U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries House Minority Leader U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Susan Collins Senate Appropriations Committee Vice Chair U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro House Appropriations Committee Ranking Member U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

Dear Leader Schumer, Leader McConnell, Speaker Johnson, Leader Jeffries, Chair Murray, Vice-Chair Collins, Chair Granger, and Ranking Member DeLauro:

On behalf of the Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA) and the HIV Medicine Association (HIVMA), we urge you to enact final FY2024 spending legislation that provides full funding for and averts cuts to vital, lifesaving domestic and global ID and HIV programs. Please prevent the funding reductions that would be triggered by a long-term Continuing Resolution.

IDSA and HIVMA represent more than 12,000 infectious diseases physicians and scientists devoted to patient care, prevention, public health, education, and research in the area of infectious diseases. Our members care for patients with serious infections, including HIV/AIDS, sepsis and septic shock, pneumonia, blood stream infections, and tuberculosis. They also treat patients with infections that are resistant to many available antimicrobials, including immunocompromised individuals with HIV, transplant recipients, and patients with artificial joints, pacemakers, and other medical devices. Our members conduct ground-breaking research that yields new treatments, vaccines and diagnostic tools, and they are on the frontlines of outbreak preparedness and response.

A robust and sustained federal commitment to ID and HIV efforts across departments and agencies within the Labor, Health, and Human Services, and State and Foreign Operations Appropriations bills is needed for:

- CDC to fund the Antibiotic Resistance Solutions Initiative program to combat AMR and support antimicrobial stewardship, prevention for HIV, TB, STIs, and viral hepatitis; global health activities; and efforts to address infectious diseases related to the opioid epidemic.
- NIAID to advance basic, clinical, and translational ID research; HIV/AIDS research; AMR research; and to support early career ID physician-scientists and diversify the ID research workforce.

- HRSA's Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program to ensure all parts of the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program continue to support HIV care and treatment to people with HIV who otherwise will go without, including RWHAP Part F which funds the AIDS Education and Training Centers.
- The Ending the HIV Epidemic Initiative to achieve the goal of reducing new HIV cases by 90% by 2030; sustain funding for EHE programs administered by the CDC, including funding for a National PrEP Program; and HRSA's Bureau of Primary Health Care and Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program.
- ASPR/BARDA to fully fund the CARB-X and Broad Spectrum Antimicrobials Program to spur antimicrobial R&D efforts that result in new safe and effective antibiotics
- USAID and the State Department to fully fund the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) to support 14 million people on life-saving antiretroviral drugs that prevent and treat HIV globally; the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria; and the USAID global tuberculosis program.

These programs are vital to our country's health. Cuts to these programs would be a major setback to our national response to infectious diseases and would leave us unprepared for the next pandemic. As experts in the field of ID and HIV, we urge you to provide full funding for these programs in FY2024 that are essential to our individual and collective security. Patients, as well as our nation's health and safety, all depend on your leadership. If we can serve as a resource for your efforts, please have your staff contact Lisa Cox, IDSA Director of Government Relations, at loca@idsociety.org or Jose Rodriguez, HIVMA Associate Director, Public Policy and Advocacy, at jrodriguez@hivma.org.

Sincerely,

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Steven K. Schmitt, MD, FIDSA President, IDSA

Allison Agwe, MD, ScM, FIDSA, FAAP Chair, HIVMA