

November 13, 2025

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker of the House
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable John Thune
Majority Leader, U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

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

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Susan Collins
Chair, Senate Appropriations Committee
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chair, House Appropriations Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Patty Murray
Vice Chair, Senate Appropriations Committee
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

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

Dear Majority Leader Thune, Minority Leader Schumer, Speaker Johnson, Minority Leader Jeffries, Chair Collins, Vice Chair Murray, Chair Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

The Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA) and the HIV Medicine Association (HIVMA) and our more than 13,000 infectious diseases physicians and scientists appreciate the passage of the Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act to reopen the government and extend telehealth flexibilities through January. We urge you to continue critical efforts to avoid another year-long continuing resolution that would limit lifesaving progress that patients and communities depend upon. We strongly urge you to enact final bipartisan FY 2026 spending legislation that fully funds infectious diseases and HIV programs at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the National Institutes of Health, the Health Resources and Services Administration, and the Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response/Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority, and that strengthens congressional oversight to help ensure that the Administration utilizes funding as Congress intends and bases its health policies on the best available scientific evidence. **IDSA and HIVMA strongly support the bipartisan Senate Labor-HHS-Education appropriations bill and urge you to build upon this bill to make additional needed investments in our nation's ID and HIV infrastructure.**

Congress must also provide a longer-term extension of the telehealth flexibilities to help ensure that our patients, particularly those who live in rural areas, do not experience additional disruptions in care that may further compromise their health. In addition, an immediate extension of the enhanced marketplace premium tax credits enacted in 2021 is urgently needed to prevent millions of Americans from losing their health care coverage, including many of our patients with HIV.



The shutdown and the ongoing FY 2026 appropriations process have intensified our concerns about the serious impacts of disruptions in funding on public health. Alarming, CDC has not been updating publicly available respiratory viral data during the shutdown, leaving health care professionals and state and local health departments without information about the spread of respiratory viruses. It is critical that Congress provide stable funding to prevent future disruptions, as this information helps communities and health care systems prepare for surges and helps individual clinicians more effectively determine what tests to order for sick patients and initiate rapid therapy based on epidemiologic data. While we are in the beginning of respiratory virus season now, it is critical that this work resume long before respiratory virus activity peaks this winter.

Every day without the enactment of a bipartisan final FY 2026 funding package threatens access to essential services upon which Americans rely, including vaccine clinics; clinical trials for lifesaving therapies; HIV prevention, care and treatment; access to tests for rare infections only available through CDC; and protection from potential outbreaks, bioterror attacks and foodborne illnesses. IDSA and HIVMA urge you to reject the cuts in the House bill that would severely undermine vitally important ID and HIV programs and advance a final FY 2026 bill that sustains funding for ID and HIV programs.

Our members and their patients are counting on your leadership to protect Americans from infectious diseases. If we can serve as a resource for your efforts, please have your staff contact Lisa Cox, IDSA Director of Government Relations, at lc Cox@idsociety.org, or Jose Rodriguez, HIVMA Associate Director, Public Policy and Advocacy, at jrodriguez@hivma.org.

Sincerely,

Ronald G. Nahass, MD, MHCM, FIDSA
President, IDSA

Anna K. Person, MD, FIDSA
Chair, HIVMA