



Jan. 10, 2023

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

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

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

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

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

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

The Honorable Kay Granger
House Appropriations Committee 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 avoids any cuts to life-saving federal domestic and global ID and HIV programs. Please reject a full-year Continuing Resolution that would result in major reductions to non-defense discretionary programs including ID and HIV prevention, care and research activities.

IDSA and HIVMA represent more than 13,000 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 from infants to seniors with HIV, cancer, 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.

Congress has an opportunity to fortify our ability to get ahead of the many infectious diseases threats facing the nation with an intentional and focused federal commitment to ID and HIV programs across departments and agencies within the Labor, Health, and Human Services, and State and Foreign Operations Appropriations bills in FY2024. Full funding for these vital efforts is needed for:

- CDC to fund the Antibiotic Resistance Solutions Initiative program to combat antimicrobial resistance (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.

Our patients and the communities we serve depend on your leadership to provide the resources necessary to effectively address ID threats and advance efforts to end the HIV epidemic. These programs are vital to our country's health and any cuts to these efforts 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 fields of ID and HIV, we urge you to provide full funding for these programs in FY2024 to protect the health of our patients and of our nation.. If we can serve as a resource for your efforts, please have your staff contact Lisa Cox, IDSA Director of Government Relations, at lcox@idsociety.org or Jose Rodriguez, HIVMA Associate Director, Public Policy and Advocacy, at jrodriguez@hivma.org.

Sincerely,



Steven K. Schmitt, MD, FIDSA
President, IDSA



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