

June 25, 2009

The Honorable Edward Kennedy
Chairman
Committee on Health, Education, Labor & Pensions
317 Russell Senate Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Michael Enzi
Ranking Member
Committee on Health, Education, Labor & Pensions
379A Russell Senate Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Kennedy and Ranking Member Enzi:

The 285 undersigned organizations express strong support for the public health and prevention provisions included in the Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee's health reform mark. Enactment of these provisions would help ensure that health reform strengthens our public health infrastructure and reorients our health system towards prevention and preparedness. In particular, we would like to express our gratitude and strong support for the bill's establishment of a National Prevention and Health Promotion Strategy and a Prevention and Public Health Investment Fund.

In order to create a renewed focus on public health and wellness, we need a **National Prevention and Health Promotion Strategy**. As outlined in the bill, the Strategy would set specific goals and objectives for improving the nation's health through federally-supported prevention programs. It would also help promote public health across all federal agencies and establish specific and measurable actions to carry out the strategy. We believe the Strategy will help focus our nation's prevention activities and help achieve progress in meeting prevention and wellness goals.

To facilitate implementation of the Strategy, and to prioritize prevention, we need an expanded and sustainable funding stream to support prevention, wellness, and public health activities. Toward that end, we applaud the inclusion of a **Prevention and Public Health Investment Fund**. As you know, high rates of chronic disease are one of the biggest drivers of health care costs. Americans are not as healthy as they could be or should be even though the U.S. spends more than any other nation in the world on health care. The country will continue to struggle to contain health care costs until we do a better job of keeping people healthier and preventing disease. The Investment Fund will help to reorient our system from a reactive, treatment-centered approach to a system focusing on wellness and health promotion.

We now have the opportunity to make a major course correction in the way our country deals with promoting public health. We would like to thank you again for capitalizing on this opportunity through the inclusion of the National Prevention and Health Promotion Strategy and

the Prevention and Public Health Investment Fund, and to express our enthusiastic support for enactment of these provisions.

Sincerely,

100 Black Men of Charleston, Inc. (SC)
317 Coalition
Academy of Breastfeeding Medicine
Access Community Health Network
Access Institute
Advocates for EMS
AIDS Action Baltimore
AIDS Action Council
AIDS Foundation of Chicago
AIDS Project Los Angeles
ALERT Health
Alliance for Healthy Homes
All Saints Home Care and Referral Services
Alzheimer's Family Organization (Florida)
Alzheimer's Foundation of America
Alzheimer's Foundation of Staten Island, Inc. (NY)
Alzheimer's Services of the Capital Area (Baton Rouge, LA)
American Academy of HIV Medicine
American Academy of Nursing
American Academy of Pediatrics
American Academy of Physician Assistants
American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance
American Association for Health Education
American Association for Physical Activity and Recreation
American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy
American Association of Occupational Health Nurses
American Association of School Administrators
American Association on Health and Disability
American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities
American College of Clinical Pharmacy
American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine
American College of Osteopathic Pediatricians
American College of Preventive Medicine
American College of Sports Medicine
American Heart Association
American Lung Association in Alabama
American Lung Association
American Lung Association in Alaska
American Lung Association in California
American Lung Association in Connecticut
American Lung Association in Delaware

American Lung Association in the District of Columbia
American Lung Association in Florida
American Lung Association in Georgia
American Lung Association in Idaho
American Lung Association in Illinois
American Lung Association in Indiana
American Lung Association in Iowa
American Lung Association in Louisiana
American Lung Association in Maine
American Lung Association in Maryland
American Lung Association in Massachusetts
American Lung Association in Minnesota
American Lung Association in Mississippi
American Lung Association in New Hampshire
American Lung Association in New Jersey
American Lung Association in New York
American Lung Association in North Carolina
American Lung Association in North Dakota
American Lung Association in Rhode Island
American Lung Association in South Carolina
American Lung Association in South Dakota
American Lung Association in Pennsylvania
American Lung Association in Tennessee
American Lung Association in Texas
American Lung Association in Utah
American Lung Association in Vermont
American Lung Association in Virginia
American Lung Association in Washington
American Lung Association in West Virginia
American Lung Association in Wisconsin
American Nurses Association
American Osteopathic Association
American Pediatric Society
American Pharmacists Association
American Psychiatric Association
American Psychological Association
American Public Health Association
American School Health Association
American Social Health Association
American Society of Bariatric Physicians
American Thoracic society
amfAR, The Foundation for AIDS Research
Arthritis Foundation
Assembly on School-Based Health Care
Association for Prevention Teaching and Research
Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology, Inc.

Association of Child and Maternal Health Programs
Association of Clinicians for the Underserved
Association of Immunization Managers
Association of Medical School Pediatric Department Chairs
Association of Public Health Laboratories
Association of Schools of Public Health
Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors
Association of State and Territorial Directors of Nursing
Association of State and Territorial Health Officials
Association of University Centers on Disabilities
Autism Society of America
Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law
Black Women's Health Imperative
Brain Injury Association of America
Breathe California
Bridgeway Pointe Assisted Living in Cincinnati, Ohio
Brooklyn Perinatal Network Inc
Brooklyn Task Force on Infant and Maternal Mortality and Family Health
California Center for Public Health Advocacy
California Conference of Local Health Officers
California Food Policy Advocates
California Health Association-North
California Primary Care Association
Campaign for Public Health
CANN - Community Access National Network
CardioVision 2020 (Minnesota)
Caring Days Adult Day Care, A Program of Caring Congregations (Alabama)
Center for Behavioral Research, School of Public Health, San Diego State University
Center for Biosecurity, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center
Center for Cognitive Fitness & Innovative Therapies
Center for Communications, Health & the Environment
Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy, University of MN
Center for Science in the Public Interest
Chenango Health Network (NY)
Cherokee Nation
Children's Dental Health Project
Children's Health Fund
CityMatCH
Cleveland Department of Public Health
Coastal Health District, Georgia
Commonweal (WA)
Community Health Councils
Community Health Partnership: Oregon's Public Institute
Community HIV/AIDS Mobilization Project (NY and RI)
Continuum Senior Care Management, Inc.
Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists

County Health Executives Association of California
Defeat Diabetes Foundation
Dementia Care Services, LLC (Texas)
Directors of Health Promotion and Education
Emergency Nurses Association
Environmental Health Watch
Epilepsy Foundation
Every Child By Two
Fall Prevention Center of Excellence
FamilyCook Productions
Family Voices
Fay W. Boozman College of Public Health - University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
First Focus
Fitness Forward
Flint Odyssey House, Inc Health Awareness Center (MI)
Georgetown County Diabetes CORE Group (SC)
Georgia District 2 Public Health
Georgia Public Health Association
Golden Gate Designs
Healthcare Consortium, Inc
Health District 3-1 (Georgia)
Health Education Network of Delaware
Health Promotion Research Center, University of Washington
Hepatitis B Foundation
Hepatitis Foundation International
Hidalgo Medical Services (NM)
HIV Medicine Association
Home Safety Council
Housing Works
Howard University Center for Wellness and Weightloss Surgery
Human Rights Campaign
Immunization Action Coalition
Infectious Diseases Society of America
Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy
Institute for Health and Productivity Studies, Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University
Institute of Public Health, Georgia State University
InterAmerican Heart Foundation
International Health, Racquet & Sports Club Association
Khmer Health Advocates, Inc
Lifelong AIDS Alliance (WA)
Louisiana Public Health Institute
Lutheran Family & Children's Services
March of Dimes Foundation
Maryland Association of County Health Officers
Massachusetts Public Health Association
Mental Health America

Michigan Department of Community Health, Healthy Homes University Program
Nacogdoches Treatment Center – Alzheimer’s Day Activity Program (Texas)
National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors
National Association for Public Health Statistics and Information Systems
National Association of Anorexia Nervosa and Associated Disorders
National Association of Chronic Disease Directors
National Association of Community Health Centers
National Association of Counties
National Association of County and City Health Officials
National Association of Local Boards of Health
National Association of People with AIDS
National Association of RSVP Directors
National Association of School Nurses
National Association for Sport & Physical Education
National Athletic Trainers' Association
National Birth Defects Prevention Network
National Coalition for Promoting Physical Activity
National Coalition of STD Directors
National Environmental Health Association
National Forum for Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention
National Health Council
National Health Foundation
National Health Science Honor Society (Eta Sigma Gamma)
National Hispanic Health Foundation
National Hispanic Medical Association
National Initiative for Children’s Healthcare Quality
National League for Nursing
National Medical Association
National Network of Public Health Institutes
National Nursing Centers Consortium
National Nursing Network Organization
National Parent Teacher Association
National Recreation and Park Association
National Research Center for Women & Families
National Student Nurses’ Association
National TB Controllers Association
National WIC Association
Nemours
Nevada Cancer Institute
New York Academy of Medicine
New York State Nutrition Council
New York Statewide Breastfeeding Coalition
Novo Nordisk
Pacific Center of Excellence in the Elimination of Disparities
Partners for a Healthy Nevada
Partnership for Prevention

Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine
Physicians for Social Responsibility
Pop Warner Little Scholars
Prevention Institute
Preventive Cardiovascular Nurses Association
Project Lifesaver International (Virginia)
Public Health Foundation
Public Health Institute
Public Health Nursing Section (APHA)
Public Health-Seattle & King County
Rails-to-Trails Conservancy
REACH US Lawndale Health Promotion Project, Chicago Dept. of Public Health
REACH U.S. SEA-CEED
Rebuilding Together
Research!America
Researchers against Inactivity-related Disorders
RI Lead Techs, Inc.
RWJF Center for Health Policy
SAGE Eldercare (New Jersey)
San Ysidro School District
Save the Children
Shaping America's Health
Society for Pediatric Research
Society for Public Health Education
South Beach AIDS Project, Inc.
Special Olympics
Sporting Goods Manufacturers Association
State and Territorial Injury Prevention Directors Association
Sudden Cardiac Arrest Association
TAKE CHARGE!!! Lifestyle Management, Inc.
The Access Project
The AIDS Institute
The ARK, Adult Respite Kare and Alzheimer's Family Support Services
The Community Heart Health Coalition of Ulster County
The Midwest Latino Health Research, Training and Policy Center at the University of Illinois at Chicago
The National Alliance to Advance Adolescent Health
The National Coalition for LGBT Health
The National Nursing Network Organization
The New England Coalition for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention
The Praxis Project
The Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America
Treatment Access Expansion Project
Treatment Action Group (IL)
Trust for America's Health
United American Nurses, AFL-CIO
United Fresh Produce Association

United States Breastfeeding Committee
United States Water Fitness Association
United Way of America
U.S. PIRG
U.S. Preventive Medicine, Inc.
Visiting Nurse Associations of America
Washington Coalition for Promoting Physical Activity
Washington Health Foundation-Healthiest State in the Nation Campaign
WomenHeart: The National Coalition for Women with Heart Disease.
Women's Sports Foundation
YBH (Youth Becoming Healthy) Project, Inc.
YMCA of Greater Cleveland
YMCA of the USA
YOUR Center (MI)