



National Association of County & City Health Officials

*The National Connection for Local Public Health*

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **NACCHO Opposes House FY2018 Spending Bill**

Washington, DC, December 14, 2017 – The [National Association of County and City Health Officials](#) (NACCHO), representing nearly 3,000 local health departments, opposes the House spending bill to fund the federal government through January 19 and reauthorize the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and other safety net programs as it siphons funds from the Prevention and Public Health Fund (PPHF).

“Our members wholeheartedly support the continuation of federal funding, as well as, the extension of vital health insurance for our children and community health centers,” said NACCHO Interim Executive Director and Chief of Government Affairs Laura Hanen, MPP. “However, the House plan to support these programs at the expense of the Prevention and Public Health Fund is unwise. You are just trading off one part of the health safety net for another and it will cost you more in the end by disinvesting in programs that prevent people from getting sick in the first place.”

NACCHO urges Congress to reject passage of this legislation that would gut the [Prevention and Public Health Fund](#), a critical funding lifeline for local health departments as they work to ensure the health and safety of the communities they serve. Losing this financial support could have dire consequences for communities and impact those most in need of services.

Continued Hanen, “Americans need to have access both to primary healthcare and the prevention programs and services provided by health departments.”

The Prevention and Public Health Fund makes up 12% of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) funding. Among the CDC programs at risk are the Immunization Program, Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention, Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention, Diabetes Prevention, and Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity.

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### **About NACCHO**

The National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) represents the nation's nearly 3,000 local health departments. These city, county, metropolitan, district, and tribal departments work every day to protect and promote health and well-being for all people in their communities. For more information about NACCHO, please visit [www.naccho.org](http://www.naccho.org).