## COALITION for HEALTH FUNDING

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Washington, D.C.**— The Coalition for Health Funding issues the following statement regarding the Senate Labor-Health and Human Services bill for fiscal year 2025.

The <u>Coalition for Health Funding</u>, an alliance of 86 nonprofit organizations working to promote strong investments in the public health continuum, commends the Senate for providing increases to many essential public health programs across HHS. CHF remains concerned that the FY 2025 appropriations process is once again bound by funding caps agreed to as part of the Fiscal Responsibility Act, making it impossible for appropriators to truly invest in our nation's public health infrastructure. We call on the Congress to make our nation's health a top priority in FY 2025.

We thank the Senate for working in a bipartisan manner to provide an increase for the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) in the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies (Labor-HHS) funding bill. Every agency within HHS has a unique mission to prepare for and respond to our nation's health demands and each needs annual sustained funding increases—not cuts or level funding—to protect the health of all Americans. Each health agency—Administration for Community Living, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Food and Drug Administration, Health Resources and Services Administration, Indian Health Services, National Institutes of Health, and Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration—is interconnected and plays an essential role in the nation's health.

These agencies enable us to respond to emerging health threats, invest in fundamental research that will pave the way for next generation cures, provide preventive care, and ensure access to critical health services for vulnerable populations. Inadequate funding for our nation's health programs puts the health and well-being of all Americans at serious risk. Limiting spending with arbitrary caps fails to account for inflation, population growth, and increasing health care costs.

We urge the Congress to move forward with finalizing funding bills and use the Senate L-HHS bill as a starting point for negotiations. To protect the nation's health, Congress must reject arbitrary caps and damaging funding levels proposed in the House majority appropriation bills and adequately fund HHS agencies and programs to keep pace with rising costs and the needs of our country.

The Coalition for Health Funding includes <u>86 organizations</u>. It is the oldest and largest nonprofit alliance dedicated to sustained public health funding to strengthen overall public health infrastructure.