



December 14, 2017

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Majority Leader, United States House of Representatives  
2421 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Re: H.J. Res. 124 (Frelinghuysen)  
Utilization of the Prevention and Public Health Fund (PPHF) as an Offset – **OPPOSE**

Dear Majority Leader McCarthy,

The California State Association of Counties (CSAC), representing California's 58 counties, and the County Health Executives Association of California (CHEAC), representing California's 61 local health departments, respectfully must oppose using the Prevention and Public Health Fund (PPHF) as a funding offset as proposed in H.J. Res. 124 by Representative Rodney Frelinghuysen.

While we support key provisions of the resolution such as the reauthorization of the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and community health center funding, repurposing \$6.35 billion from the PPHF over the next 10 years to fund these programs would mean core public health services, such as immunizations, epidemiology and lab capacity, and chronic disease prevention for conditions such as heart disease and diabetes would be endangered.

The PPHF was created in 2010 under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and is the first mandatory funding stream to support public health activities. The PPHF now provides roughly 12 percent of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) budget, which provides grants and program funding to state and local jurisdictions. In California, the PPHF funding received by counties has been used to build laboratory and epidemiology capacity, support implementation of population-wide approaches to preventing obesity and chronic disease, and support approaches aimed at reducing health disparities. These vital services, in addition to other communicable disease control, chronic disease prevention, and funding to support counties' abilities to prepare for and respond to public health emergencies, provided by the CDC to our state, would be adversely impacted.

CSAC and CHEAC recognize the importance of reauthorizing CHIP and community health centers, which provide affordable health care coverage and comprehensive health services to millions of Californians. However, using the PPHF as the funding source for these programs without a clear plan for replacement would seriously undermine the ability of counties to protect and promote the health of our communities.

For these reasons, we ask you to oppose any efforts to divert Prevention and Public Health Funds, including those proposed in H.J. Res. 124.

Sincerely,

*As signed by*

Farah McDaid Ting  
Health and Behavioral Health Legislative Representative  
California State Association of Counties (CSAC)

*As signed by*

Michelle Gibbons  
Executive Director  
County Health Executives Association of California (CHEAC)