

APHA 2018 Advocacy Priorities

February 14, 2018

APHA Government Relations



2018 Advocacy Priorities

- Protecting the Affordable Care Act including the Prevention and Public Health Fund.
- FY 2018/FY 2019 funding for public health agencies and programs including CDC, HRSA and EPA.
- Climate change/Clean Air Act and public health.
- Oppose legislation that would give Congress more authority to weaken public health regulations or legislation that would roll back finalized regulations.

Protecting the Affordable Care Act

2017 ACA repeal attempts

- The U.S. House of Representatives passed the American Health Care Act, which would repeal major portions of the ACA.
- The U.S. Senate failed to move forward with 3 proposals that would have repealed all or significant portions of the ACA.
- The Trump administration has turned to administrative and regulatory changes.

Protecting the Affordable Care Act

Prevention and Public Health Fund

- Created by ACA, nation's first and only mandatory funding stream dedicated to improving public health.
- Supports community prevention and clinical prevention programs, strengthens infrastructure and workforce, expands research and tracking.
- Makes up 12% of CDC's budget.
- At risk for being repealed as part of larger ACA repeal effort.

Protecting the Affordable Care Act

Prevention and Public Health Fund

- Congress can eliminate or redirect money to pay for other proposals by passing new legislation that amends ACA.
 - Bipartisan budget deal cut \$1.35 B over 10 years from the fund.
 - FY 18 CR cut \$750 million from the fund.
 - \$3.5 billion over next 7 years cut to pay for the 21st Century Cures Act (FY 2018-21).

Federal Public Health Funding

Advocacy Goals

- Increased funding for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Health Resources and Services Administration FY 2019.
- Oppose policy riders that would block agencies from implementing important public health regulations, including the Clean Air Act and tobacco control/smoking prevention.

Federal Public Health Funding

President's FY 2019 Budget

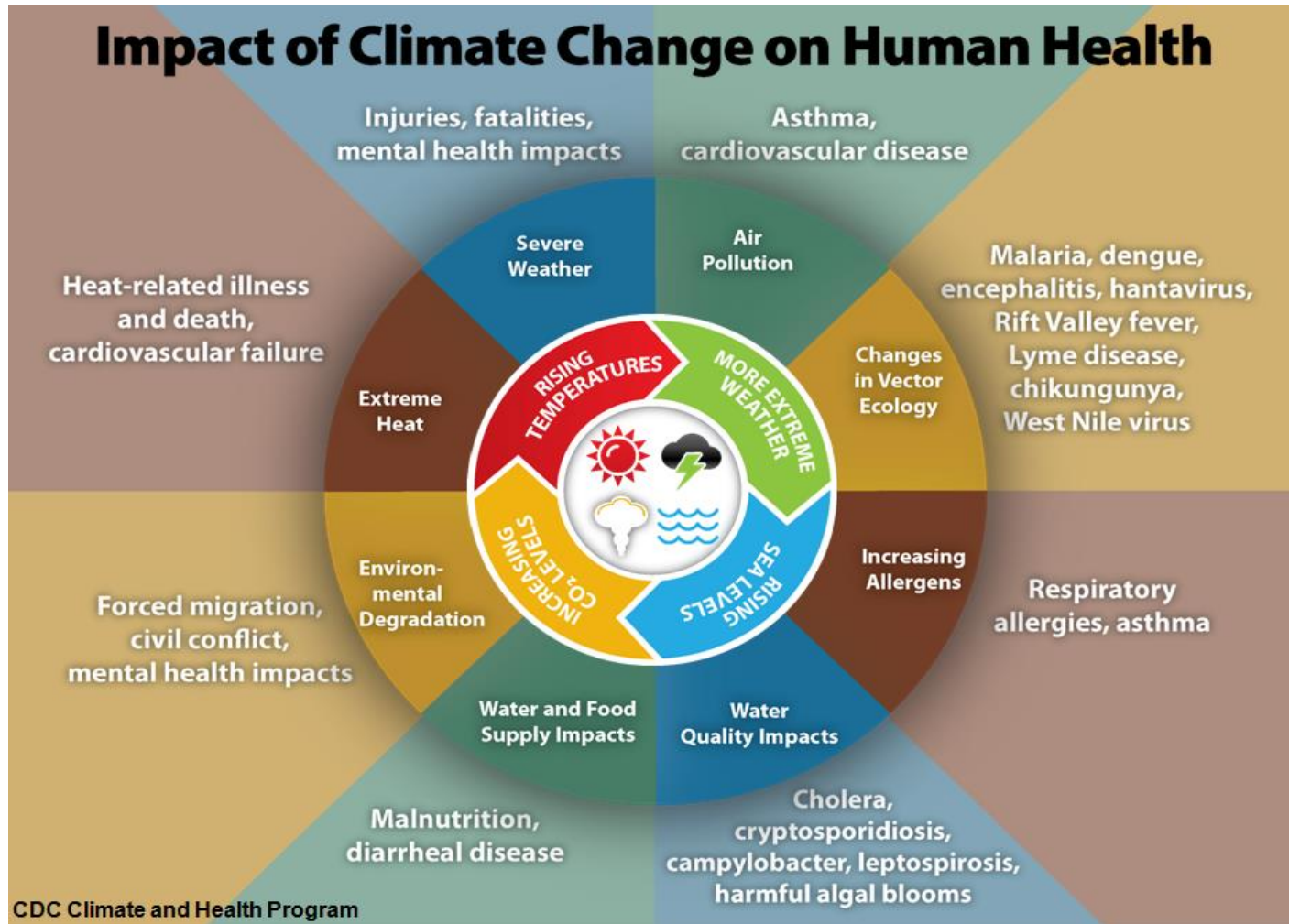
- Cut \$17.9 billion from the Department of Health and Human Services — a 21 percent decrease from 2017 levels.
- Cut \$1.5 billion from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
- Cut \$953 million from Health Resources and Services Administration.
- Cut \$2.8 billion from the Environmental Protection Agency — a 34 percent decrease from 2017 levels.
- No funding is allocated to the Prevention and Public Health Fund

Federal Public Health Funding

Current threats to funding/sequestration

- Budget Control Act of 2011
 - Austere spending caps saving \$1 trillion over 10 years
 - Failure to find other savings resulted in sequestration – an additional \$1 trillion cut FY 2013-2021.
- Sequestration took effect in 2013, bipartisan agreements have provided partial and temporary relief.
- Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 raises NDD and defense cap, eliminates sequestration in 2018 and 2019.
 - Increases caps on discretionary spending by \$63 billion in FY2018 and by \$68 billion in FY2019
 - Increases the defense caps by \$80 billion in FY2018 and \$85 billion in FY2019
- APHA advocating for some of additional NDD \$ to go for public health.

Climate Change and Health



Climate Change and Health

EPA Clean Power Plan

- CPP plan would:
 - Cut carbon pollution from the power sector by 30% from 2005 levels.
 - Cut pollution that leads to soot and smog by over 25% in 2030 (co-benefit).
 - Climate and health benefits worth an estimated \$55 billion to \$93 billion in 2030, including avoiding between 1,900- 4,500 premature deaths (according to the Trump administration's own analysis) and 140,000 to 150,000 asthma attacks in children.
- Currently put on hold by SCOTUS until lower court rules.
- EPA has proposed completely rolling back the CPP and has proposed a more limited replacement.

Climate Change and Health

CDC Climate and Health Program

- Better understand relationship between climate change and health outcomes.
- Identify locations and population groups at greatest risk for specific health threats, such as heat waves.
- Provide technical advice and support to state and local health departments, the private sector and others in implementing national and global preparedness measures related to the health effects of climate change.

Climate Change and Health

CDC Climate and Health Program: Funding

- Currently funded at \$10 million in FY 2017/2018 CR.
- Funding at risk – previous attempts to eliminate the funding for CDC’s climate and health program by appropriators was rejected by Obama.
- APHA and other public health partners have advocated in support of maintaining funding for CDC’s National Center for Environmental Health, including the CDC climate and health program.

Climate Change and Health

Clean Air Act

- Some in Congress and the EPA administrator want to roll back CAA protections.
- Legislation in Congress to delay 2015 ozone updates, further weaken the Clean Air Act.
- APHA and partners continue to press EPA for the strongest most health-protective rules and oppose efforts in Congress to block or roll-back rules.

Climate Change and Health/Clean Air Act

Advocacy goals

- Oppose legislation to weaken the Clean Air Act.
- Oppose policy riders on appropriations bills to weaken Clean Air Act rules.
- Oppose effort to repeal the Clean Power Plan.
- APHA and partners continue to press EPA for the strongest most health-protective rules and oppose efforts in Congress to block or roll-back rules.

Public Health Regulations

- Federal rules play an important role in protecting public from serious health threats including school meals, deadly air pollution, toxic chemicals, food contamination and workplace injuries.
- Several bills that would weaken current regulatory process have already passed the House this Congress (2017):
 - Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act: would give Congress final approval authority over all major rules.
 - Midnight Rules Relief Act: would allow Congress to use the Congressional Review Act to disapprove multiple rules finalized near the end of a presidential term at once, even rules that have been through years of public input and scientific review.
 - Weaken menu labeling rules.

Public Health Regulations

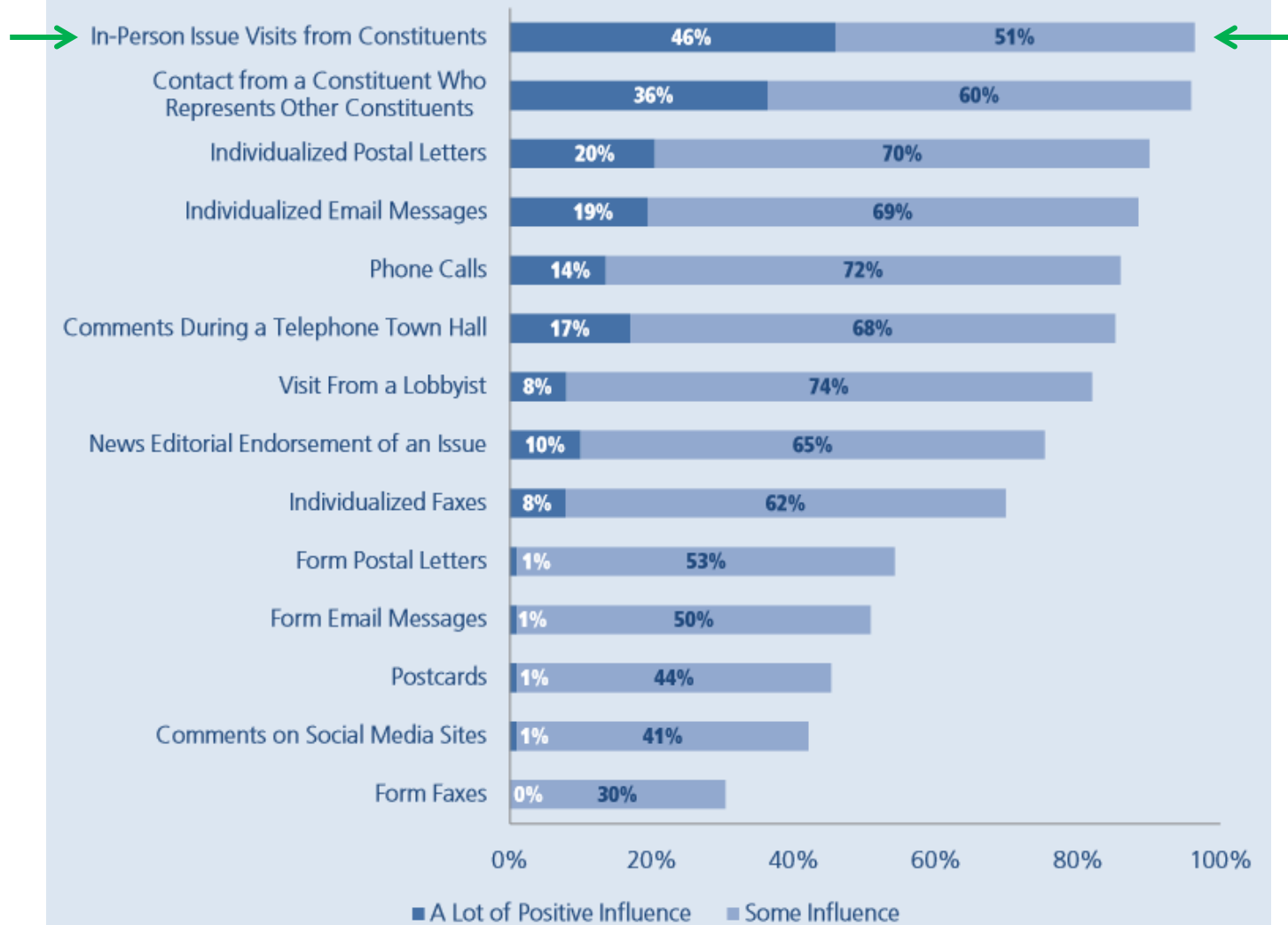
- White House issued an Executive Order to require agencies to identify 2 rules to repeal for every 1 new rule put in place.
- In addition the Trump admin is proposing weakening current school meal standards and loosening rules for association health plans.
- APHA is working to maintain integrity of federal regulatory process to protect public health.
- EPA has proposed weakening implementation of other laws.
 - Example: TSCA new chemical review process.

Public Health Regulations

Advocacy goals

- Oppose efforts in Congress and the administration to weaken existing public health regulations.
- Weigh in with agencies supporting strongest possible public health protections in key rules and regulations.

If your Member/Senator has not already arrived at a firm decision on an issue, how much influence might the following advocacy strategies directed to the *Washington office* have on his/her decision?*



*Question was asked only of senior managers and mail staffers. Their responses are aggregated (n=194).

Congressional Management Foundation.

Advocacy Tactics for Public Health

1. **Attend public events:** town halls, public meetings, local events.
1. **Meet with your members of Congress and staff:** DC and district office meetings, invite them to visit your program, host round table discussions.
1. **Engage through correspondence:** phone calls, emails, letters.
1. **Engage through media opportunities:** letters to the editor, opinion editorials, social media, #SpeakForHealth

Resources to Support Your Advocacy Efforts

- Educational webinars.
- Issue briefs, fact sheets – including state specific.
- Legislative update (APHA members only).
- Advocacy sessions at APHA Annual Meeting.
- [Vote Record](#) (APHA members only)
- **PHACT Campaign/#SpeakForHealth**
 - Information about town halls and other constituent meetings including sample questions for public forums.
 - Tips for meeting with your members of Congress.
 - Tips for writing and submitting a letter to the editor and op-ed including sample op-eds (technical assistance: mediarelations@apha.org).
 - Tips for using social media to highlight APHA priorities/engage members of Congress.
 - APHA and coalition letters, briefs, testimony and comments.

APHA's PHACT Campaign

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Public Health Action Campaign



Join APHA members, Affiliates and other advocates in educating members of Congress on important public health issues that help build and maintain healthy communities. Reach out to your congressional leaders to express support for protecting critical funding for public health agencies and the Prevention and Public Health Fund, addressing the health impacts of climate change and protecting the Affordable Care Act. When we all raise our voices together, our leaders in Congress are more likely to listen!

The Public Health Action, or PHACT, campaign gives you the tools you need to talk to your members of Congress about the importance of public health.

- [Meet](#) with your members of Congress or their staff.
- Attend a public forum or town hall and [ask a question](#). Call the district offices of your [senators](#) and [representative](#) to request a list of events near you.
- Find out if your members of Congress are hosting a [town hall](#) or [other constituent meetings](#) in your community or state.
- Submit an op-ed to your local paper. For a template letter or technical assistance, email mediarelations@apha.org. Learn tips for writing [op-eds](#) and [letters to the editor](#).
- Use [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#) to engage your members of Congress.
- Short on time? Send an [action alert](#) message to your members of Congress, or call your members of Congress and use the action alert message as a phone script.

APHA Action Alerts



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#SpeakForHealth: Protect public health funding in FY 2018!

Earlier this year, the House and Senate Appropriations Committees passed FY 2018 Labor-HHS-Education appropriations bills that do not adequately fund public health and that even cut or eliminate important public health programs at CDC and HRSA.

As Congress works to try to finalize FY 2018 spending legislation, #SpeakForHealth and tell your members of Congress to reject the proposed cuts to important public health programs and instead to prioritize public health in any final FY 2018 funding bill.

Recipients

- Your Senators
- Your Representative

Contact

● Required fields

● Title:

● First Name:

Message

Support strong funding for public health programs

Dear [Decision Maker],

As a constituent and American Public Health Association advocate, I #SpeakForHealth in urging you to work to develop a bipartisan budget deal to raise the current spending caps on nondefense discretionary programs and provide adequate funding for critical public health agencies and programs in FY 2018. I also urge you to reject the inclusion of controversial policy riders in any final spending bill that would threaten public health.

● Personalize your message



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The Latest

Read [this fact sheet](#) on why we still need the Affordable Care Act. (PDF)

And check out this fact sheet about the [Prevention and Public Health Fund](#). (PDF)

Read [APHA's letter in strong opposition](#) to any legislation that would repeal or weaken the ACA. (PDF)

Find out if your members of Congress are hosting a [town hall or other constituent meetings](#) in your community or state



Use [these talking points](#) to express your support for the ACA and oppose the repeal effort. (PDF)

[Send a message to your senators and representative](#) and urge them to support full implementation ACA and to oppose any efforts to repeal this historic public health law!

[Sign the petition urging President Trump and Congressional leaders](#) to protect the gains made under the Affordable Care Act.

Read "[The Economic and Employment Consequences of Repealing Health Reform: A 50 State Analysis](#)"

For information on policies that can strengthen the ACA's insurance exchanges, take a look at this [issue brief](#).

Learn more about how the ACA's Prevention and Public Health Fund supports the CDC by reading this [issue brief](#). (PDF)

This [article](#) describes the U.S. health system with and without the ACA

Thank you!

Questions?

ABOUT APHA

The American Public Health Association champions the health of all people and all communities. We strengthen the profession of public health, promote best practices and share the latest public health research and information. We are the only organization that influences federal policy, has a 140-plus year perspective and brings together members from all fields of public health. Learn more at www.apha.org.



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