



April 25, 2023

U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative:

On behalf of the American Public Health Association, a diverse community of public health professionals that champions the health of all people and communities, I write in strong opposition to H.R. 2811, the Limit, Save, Grow Act of 2023. This troubling legislation would slash funding for critical nondefense discretionary programs, including public health and safety programs, rescind critical COVID-19 funding, cut Medicaid and food assistance programs for potentially millions of beneficiaries, weaken existing environmental protections and roll-back critical clean energy and climate change provisions included in the Inflation Reduction Act, among other damaging provisions. I strongly urge you to oppose this ill-conceived legislation when it comes to the House floor for a vote this week.

We are deeply concerned with the bill's proposal to roll-back nondefense discretionary spending in FY 2024 to FY 2022 levels and then impose unrealistic spending caps for the next 10 years that are significantly below inflation. The result would require a drastic reduction in funding for FY 2024 and beyond for programs that work to protect the public's health at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Health Resources and Services Administration and other important federal agencies that protect public health. Affected programs include those supporting suicide prevention interventions, public health infrastructure, health centers, opioid use prevention, maternal health and family planning, the health workforce and injury and violence prevention, among many others. The legislation would also claw back funding previously approved by Congress to help our federal, state and local health agencies combat the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

Additionally, the legislation includes other severe provisions that would negatively impact public health:

- Implementing unrealistic, unproven and discriminatory work requirements for certain Medicaid and SNAP program recipients could cause up to 10 million individuals to lose access to health coverage and hundreds of thousands of beneficiaries to lose access to nutritious food.
- Repealing or weakening clean energy tax credits included in the Inflation Reduction Act will limit the ability of families to access cleaner, healthier energy that will help them save on their energy and vehicle bills.
- Repealing the Methane Emissions Reduction Program that will help reduce the levels of climate-warming methane and other dangerous co-pollutants from oil and gas wells threatens the health of communities located near these facilities, disproportionately impacting the health of low-income and disadvantaged individuals.

- Allowing Congress to arbitrarily block important public health rules from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, the Environmental Protection Agency and the Food and Drug Administration, among other federal agencies, that protect the health and safety of the public.

We strongly urge you to oppose this anti-public health legislation and instead work in a bipartisan manner to develop legislation that improves and strengthens the nation's health.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Georges C. Benjamin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Georges" being the most prominent.

Georges C. Benjamin, MD  
Executive Director