



AMERICAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

For science. For action. For health.

June 16, 2015

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 who champion the health of all people and communities, I strongly oppose any effort to use the Prevention and Public Health Fund as an offset to pay for H.R. 1190, the Protecting Seniors' Access to Medicare Act of 2015.

The fund has already provided critical public health funding in every state – totaling \$5.25 billion – to support a variety of community prevention and clinical prevention programs, bolster the public health infrastructure and workforce, expand access to immunizations and to expand public health research and tracking efforts. Eliminating or cutting the fund would devastate these programs and would be a setback for public health systems in every state. Cuts to the fund would also leave a massive hole in the budget of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention which received more than \$886 million from the fund in 2015.

For more information about the fund and the important programs it is funding at the local, state and federal levels to fight obesity, curb tobacco use and increase access to preventive care services, please refer to [APHA's fact sheet](#). Trust for America's Health has also developed [state-specific fact sheets](#) that show how the fund is being used for important public health and prevention programs in every state.

Voting to cut the fund is a vote against public health. We urge you to oppose this and any future efforts to cut or repeal this important source of public health funding.

Sincerely,

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

Georges C. Benjamin, MD
Executive Director