

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 21, 2025

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Trump,

We write to express deep concern about reports that the Trump Administration is considering eliminating the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Division of HIV Prevention within the National Center of HIV, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and Tuberculosis Prevention (NCHHSTP). Scaling back or eliminating this division will result in thousands of new cases of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) in the United States, opening the way for babies to be born with HIV, costing the federal government and taxpayers billions of dollars, and leading to unnecessary deaths across the country.

On February 5, 2019, you declared a commendable and ambitious goal of ending the HIV epidemic (EHE) in the United States.¹ One of the pillars of your initiative, as shown on CDC's website, is prevention.² It is imperative that you uphold this commitment. As CDC has currently identified, we must prevent new HIV transmissions through proven interventions, including pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP), if we are to achieve a 90 percent reduction in new infections by 2030.³

Prevention provides a large return on investment for the federal government – adjusted for inflation, a lifetime of medical costs for a person with HIV can be over \$500,000.⁴ Losing the CDC's Division of HIV Prevention would be an enormous loss to HIV providers. The only other major dedicated source of HIV/AIDS funding is the flagship Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program, which statutorily is unable to cover services for people who are not already diagnosed with HIV/AIDS and thus cannot cover any prevention-only services. If this funding is eliminated, state budgets that are already stretched thin will be unable to completely replace these lost resources the federal government provides.

Nationally, there has been a 12 percent reduction in HIV incidence between 2018 and 2022.⁵ The EHE initiative at the CDC has resulted in a 21 percent reduction in HIV incidence in EHE

¹ President Donald J. Trump's State of the Union Address. February 2019.

<https://trumpwhitehouse.archives.gov/briefings-statements/president-donald-j-trumps-state-union-address-2/>

² Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Ending the HIV Epidemic in the US (EHE). March 2025.

<https://www.cdc.gov/ehe/php/about/goals.html>

³ Ibid.

⁴ Estimated Lifetime HIV – Related Medical Costs in the United States. 2021. National Library of Medicine.

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/33492100/>

⁵ US Statistics. HIV.gov. February 2025. <https://www.hiv.gov/hiv-basics/overview/data-and-trends/statistics>

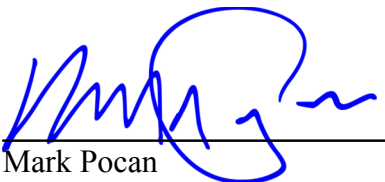
jurisdictions, primarily attributed to increases in PrEP prescriptions.⁶ Eliminating preventive HIV funding will result in tens of thousands of HIV cases and cost billions in lifetime HIV-related medical costs.⁷

As Members who serve the public, it is our duty to not only protect Americans from avoidable disease and early death, but to also avoid unnecessarily spending billions in taxpayer dollars down the line when HIV rates eventually skyrocket due to this potential action. Just last week, Congress passed a Continuing Resolution, which continues funding levels from Fiscal Year 2024, that appropriated funding to CDC for carrying out HIV/AIDS programs. Accordingly, we expect CDC will continue to carry out those programs.

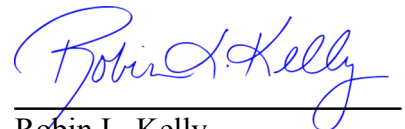
We urge your administration to reconsider any plans to eliminate or reduce federal HIV programming. The Division of HIV Prevention makes America safer, healthier, and more prosperous, and the lives of millions of people depend on it.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and we look forward to your timely response.


Sincerely,




Mark Pocan
Member of Congress




Robin L. Kelly
Member of Congress




Kirsten Gillibrand
United States Senator



Jeffrey A. Merkley
United States Senator



Bonnie Watson Coleman
Member of Congress



Raul Ruiz, M.D.
Member of Congress

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Ibid; Estimated Lifetime HIV – Related Medical Costs in the United States.



Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress



Jerrold Nadler
Member of Congress



Lloyd Doggett
Member of Congress



Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.
Member of Congress



Dan Goldman
Member of Congress



Madeleine Dean
Member of Congress



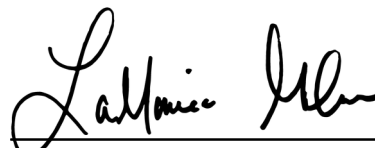
Paul D. Tonko
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Emanuel Cleaver, II
Member of Congress



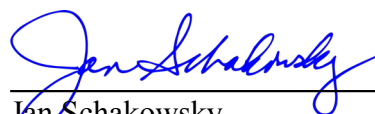
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LaMonica McIver
Member of Congress



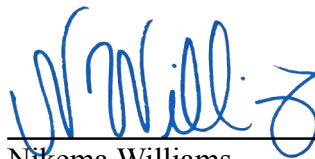
Ritchie Torres
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Diana DeGette
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Nikema Williams
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Delia C. Ramirez
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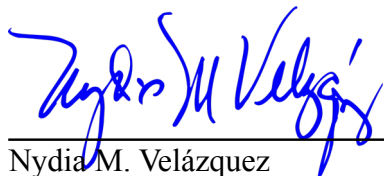
Terri A. Sewell
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Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez
Member of Congress



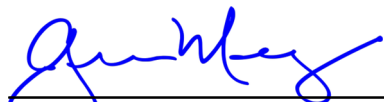
Mike Quigley
Member of Congress



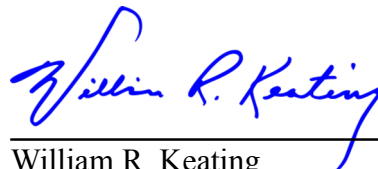
Nydia M. Velázquez
Member of Congress



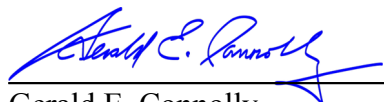
Bradley Scott Schneider
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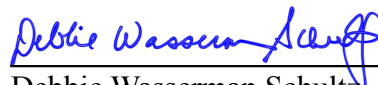
Grace Meng
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William R. Keating
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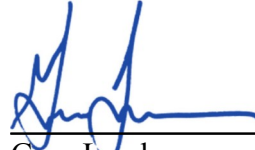
Gerald E. Connolly
Member of Congress



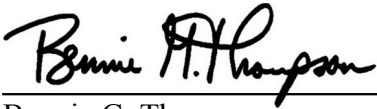
Debbie Wasserman Schultz
Member of Congress



Lateefah Simon
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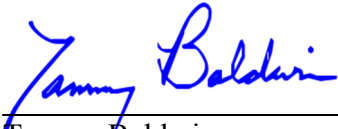
Greg Landsman
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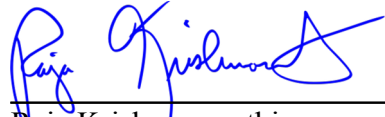
Tammy Baldwin
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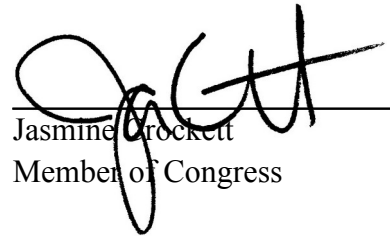
Val Hoyle
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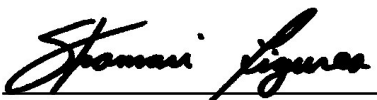
Charles E. Schumer
United States Senator



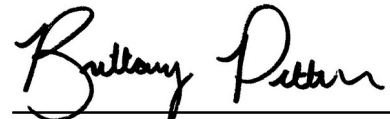
Betty McCollum
Member of Congress



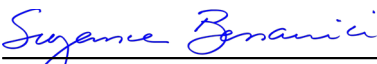
Jasmine Crockett
Member of Congress



Shomari Figures
Member of Congress



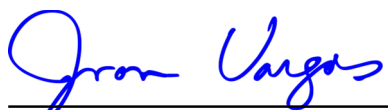
Brittany Pettersen
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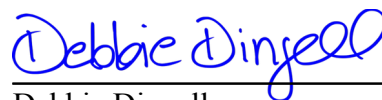
Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress



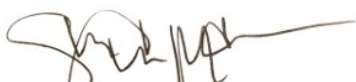
Jesús G. "Chuy" García
Member of Congress



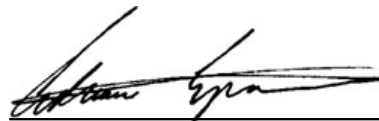
Juan Vargas
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Debbie Dingell
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Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick
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Adriano Espaillat
Member of Congress



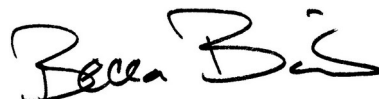
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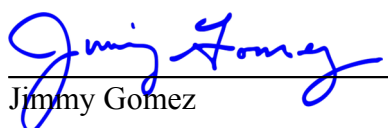
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Yassamin Ansari
Member of Congress



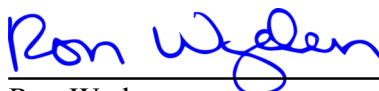
Lauren Underwood
Member of Congress



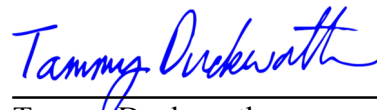
Richard J. Durbin
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George Latimer
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Ron Wyden
United States Senator



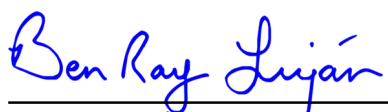
Tammy Duckworth
United States Senator



Greg Stanton
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Sean Casten
Member of Congress



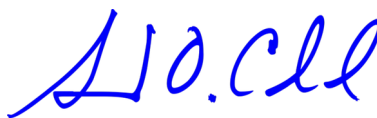
Ben Ray Lujan
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Troy A. Carter, Sr.
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Jim Costa
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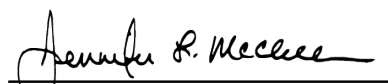
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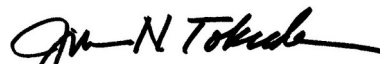
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Dina Titus
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Robert C. "Bobby" Scott
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Darren Soto
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Seth Magaziner
Member of Congress



Maxine Dexter
Member of Congress



Christopher A. Coons
United States Senator



Raphael Warnock
United States Senator

cc: Dr. Susan Monarez, Acting Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)