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FY 23 Omnibus Spending Bill Advances ASPPH Priorities

The Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health (ASPPH) applauds the fiscal year (FY) 23 omnibus spending bill released by congressional leaders earlier this week. The final package makes key investments in federal agencies and programs critical to the academic public health community. ASPPH has spent the last several months advocating to bolster federal funding for public health workforce, research, and capacity initiatives. We look forward to Congress passing the spending bill this week.

We are particularly grateful for the reauthorization of the Public Health Workforce Loan Repayment (PHWLR) program to provide loan repayment to public health professionals in exchange for working in a local, state, Territorial, or Tribal public health department. This was a top legislative priority for ASPPH. This program is essential to ensure the recruitment and retention of the frontline public health workforce across the nation. The bill authorizes $100 million for the program each year between FY 23 - FY 25. While we commend the reauthorization of PHWLR, we are disappointed that Congress did not include the much-needed funding through appropriations to support the program.

ASPPH is also happy to see a $2.5 billion increase in the National Institutes of Health (NIH) base budget at $47.49 billion. This includes $1.5 billion separately for the new Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H) and $95.1 million at the Fogarty International Center (FIC), with an overall $8 million increase, including $5 million increase dedicated to supporting research related to identifying and reducing health disparities at FIC. These robust investments are critical to advancing biomedical breakthroughs.

Within the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), ASPPH is pleased to see approximately $29 million for the Prevention Research Centers, a $2 million increase; $11 million for Injury Control Research Centers, a $2 million increase; $9.2 million for Academic Centers for Public Health Preparedness, a $1 million increase, and $32 million for the Education and Research Centers, a $1 million increase.

We also appreciate increases to the Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA) Public Health and Preventive Medicine Program, which includes a $0.5 million increase for the Public Health Training Centers and $373 million for the Agency for Health Research and Quality (AHRQ), a $23 million increase above the FY 22 level.

ASPPH is grateful for the inclusion of key priorities for academic public health in this bipartisan, bicameral measure. We urge lawmakers to work quickly to pass the bill and we look forward to working with the 118th Congress to demonstrate the further need for new and continued investments in public
The Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health (ASPPH) is a 501c3 membership organization located in Washington, DC. ASPPH’s mission is to strengthen the capacity of our member schools and programs by advancing leadership, excellence, and collaboration for academic public health. Our members are CEPH-accredited schools and programs of public health as well as schools and programs in applicant status for CEPH-accreditation.

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