



March 17, 2022

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Minority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Charles Schumer  
Majority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Minority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Minority Leader McCarthy, Leader Schumer and Leader McConnell:

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 support of additional emergency supplemental appropriations for COVID-19 prevention and response activities. We appreciate the funding that Congress has previously provided during the pandemic, and it is critical that Congress provide this additional funding to maintain and further bolster our efforts to address COVID-19 in the U.S. and internationally.

Earlier this month, the administration submitted a request for \$22.5 billion in supplemental funding to avoid any interruptions in the nation's public health, medical and global health efforts to combat COVID-19. We strongly urge Congress to approve adequate funding for these activities as soon as possible to ensure the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Food and Drug Administration, the Health Resources and Services Administration and other federal agencies have the resources needed to prevent, mitigate and respond to COVID-19.

The administration has outlined several troubling consequences should Congress fail to provide additional funding in a timely manner. These include:

- The inability to acquire sufficient vaccine booster doses and variant specific vaccines;
- A lack of funding to reimburse providers for claims submitted related to testing, vaccinating and treating the uninsured;
- Reduced ability to undertake the surveillance and research needed to identify newly emerging variants;
- Severely compromising efforts to scale up global vaccine and testing efforts;
- The inability to develop next-generation vaccines and treatments and maintain needed testing capacity; and
- A 30% reduction in state allocations of monoclonal antibody treatments

Additional funding for these and other activities is essential to continuing and strengthening the nation's ongoing domestic and global prevention and response activities related to COVID-19.

We urge you to quickly approve additional supplemental funding without further delay.

Sincerely,

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

Georges C. Benjamin, MD  
Executive Director

Cc: The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
The Honorable Kay Granger  
The Honorable Patrick Leahy  
The Honorable Richard Shelby