

## **For Immediate Release**

## **Contact:**

Theresa Spinner
Director of Media and Public Relations

Direct: 202.783.5551 <a href="mailto:tspinner@naccho.org">tspinner@naccho.org</a>

## NACCHO Welcomes Increased Funding for Public Health Priorities in House FY2020 Labor-HHS-Education Bill

Washington, DC, May 8, 2019 — The House Appropriations Committee today voted to advance its fiscal year (FY) 2020 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies (LHHS) funding bill out of committee. It includes strong spending levels for many local health department priorities, including a total of \$8.3 billion for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and strong top-line funding levels for other federal agencies that help support public health activities through local health departments. The National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO), the voice of the nation's nearly 3,000 local health departments, thanks the Committee for their recognition of the importance of protecting public health and willingness to invest in it.

"The House Appropriations Committee sent a strong message today that they are not only supportive of public health, but willing to put the dollars needed into the system," said Adriane Casalotti, NACCHO Chief of Government and Public Affairs. "These federal investments are key to support the work of local health departments to prepare for, prevent, identify, and respond to public health issues. These funds are critical to enable local health departments to work each day to strengthen our communities across the country. The current measles outbreaks across the country are but one example that

highlights the necessity for our nation to prioritize funding for governmental public health."

The spending bill includes significant investments in our nation's public health infrastructure at CDC including:

- \$700 million, an increase of \$25 million, for public health emergency preparedness cooperative agreements, which provide every state, 8 territories and four directly-funded cities with funding to foster all hazards emergency preparedness.
- \$650 million, an increase of \$39 million, for the Section 317 Immunization program.
- \$100 million for the first year of a multi-year effort to support modernization of public health data surveillance and analytics at CDC, State and local health departments and the National Center for Health Statistics.
- \$56 million, an increase of \$5 million, in public health workforce initiatives to address workforce shortages.

In addition, the bill provides increases for numerous public health priorities at CDC, including:

- \$140 million to support CDC's efforts to reduce new HIV infections by 90 percent in 10 years.
- \$250 million, an increase of \$40 million, to address tobacco and e-cigarettes.
- \$160 million, an increase of \$20 million, for heart disease and stroke.
- \$168 million, an increase of \$20 million, for diabetes, and \$30 million, an increase of \$5 million, for the Diabetes Prevention Program.
- \$15 million, an increase of \$5 million, for the health impacts of climate change.
- \$25 million to specifically support firearm injury and mortality prevention research.

###

## **About NACCHO**

The National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) represents the nation's nearly 3,000 local health departments. These city, county, metropolitan, district, and tribal departments work every day to protect and promote health and well-being for all people in their communities. For more information about NACCHO, please visit <a href="https://www.naccho.org">www.naccho.org</a>.