THE 317 COALITION
FY 2022 Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations Bill
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Immunization

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<td>Section 317 Immunization Program</td>
<td>$613,847,000</td>
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**Vaccines Save Lives and Money** – Vaccines are one of the greatest success stories in public health and are among the most cost-effective ways to prevent disease. We know that for each dollar invested in the U.S. childhood immunization program, there are over ten dollars of societal savings and three dollars in direct medical savings. Moreover, childhood immunizations over the past twenty years have prevented 381 million illnesses, 855,000 deaths, and nearly $1.65 trillion in societal costs. In the 2017 – 2018 season alone, flu vaccination prevented an estimated 5.3 million illnesses. Maintaining high vaccination coverage is vital for preventing epidemics of diseases that cause preventable illness, disability, and death.

The need to establish and maintain a robust public health immunization infrastructure has never been more critical. Data reporting challenges, limited workforce, lack of enrolled adult providers, vaccine hesitancy, and health disparities have hampered the efficient rollout of a COVID-19 vaccination campaign. Increased and sustained investment is needed to modernize immunization information systems, establish state-to-state IIS data sharing, provide aggregate doses administered data from IIS to CDC in real time, increase and sustain a network of adult immunization providers reporting data into IIS, and engage with communities to build vaccine confidence and reduce disparities. Control of COVID-19 will likely include possible virus variations and potential need for booster or annual COVID vaccinations, like annual flu vaccination. Thus, to sustain the improvements made through emergency supplemental bills, funding is needed that ensure that both routine immunization is restored and future preparedness is assured.

How the 317 Program Continues to Serve a Critical Role – Vaccines alone cannot protect a population. A strong immunization infrastructure is required to ensure that children, adolescents, and adults receive appropriate immunizations. By partnering at the local and state levels with health care providers in the public and private sectors, the program helps assure the implementation of effective and safe immunization practices to achieve high coverage, reduce disparities, and support infrastructure for essential activities.

The Vaccines for Children program, the primary source of federal vaccine purchase funding for children, relies on the critical infrastructure and operations funded through the Section 317 program to effectively serve millions of children each year. The Section 317 program is the backbone of our nation’s public health infrastructure. It supports the science that informs our national immunization policy, provides a safety net to uninsured, low-income adults for vaccine purchases, monitors the safety of vaccines, educates providers, performs community outreach, and conducts surveillance, laboratory testing, and epidemiology to respond

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**Fast Facts**
- Millions of children and adults have missed routine vaccinations due to the pandemic.
- An effective vaccine campaign is critical to controlling COVID-19.
- In 2019, 1,282 measles cases were confirmed, the greatest since 1992.
- CDC estimates it can cost over $140,000 to contain each individual case of measles.
- The U.S. spends nearly $27 billion annually to treat four vaccine preventable illnesses – flu, pertussis, pneumococcal, and shingles.
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to disease outbreaks. During the 2015 measles outbreak, 317 funds supported local and state health departments in rapid response, public health communication, data gathering, and diagnostics.

Professional Judgment – CDC developed a professional judgment budget estimate that would cover the costs of realizing the prevention opportunities that are in scope for Section 317, accounting for changes in the recommended vaccination schedules, and projecting changes to the immunization financing environment. Program operations include state, local, and national, and come to $854.6 million. Vaccine purchases include uninsured adults and time-sensitive public health needs, coming to $245.3 million. In sum, the FY 2019 professional judgment total adds up to over $1,099.9 billion.