

May 5, 2025

Lindsey Graham, Chair
State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs
Subcommittee of Appropriations
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC

Mario Diaz-Balart, Chair
National Security, Dept. of State, and Related
Programs Subcommittee of Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC

Brian Schatz, Ranking Member
State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs
Subcommittee of Appropriations
U.S. Senate
Washington DC

Lois Frankel, Ranking Member
National Security, Dept. of State, and Related
Programs Subcommittee of Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC

Dear Chairs and Ranking Members,

We, the undersigned organizations, are writing in support of U.S. global health aid that focuses on the frontline delivery of healthcare services. By “frontline” we mean delivering services directly to patients.

Frontline health workers include providers at all levels from physicians to community health workers. Necessary support for these workers includes training, supplies, protection, and supportive supervision.

Frontline health workers make our country safer by detecting and dealing with emerging health threats before they reach our shores. They are vital to our national health security.

Our request does not call for increased spending. It calls for shifting existing resources from overhead and unessential upstream activities to the frontlines.

Recent report language in House and Senate appropriations legislation calls for more attention to frontline health workers, and we ask that you require the Administration make that support more transparent with the report language below. The language below directs the Administration to provide an estimate for each Global Health Program of the amount of current spending on these workers and a target for increasing that amount.

The House and Senate State and Foreign Operations subcommittees of Appropriations included FY24 and FY25 report language paragraphs titled “Frontline health workers” and “Global Health Workforce”, respectively. We request that you continue that language for FY26 with the addition of this paragraph:

“The Secretary of State shall report, not later than (x) days after the enactment of the act, for each program in the Global Health Programs table above:

1. The estimated amount of program funds spent in the most recent fiscal year for which data is available on support provided directly to frontline primary healthcare workers, including for training, supplies, protection, and supportive supervision.
2. The report shall include targets for increasing the amount of spending on these activities in the next two years.”

We thank you for your consideration of this request.

American Academy of Family Physicians

American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians

Florida Academy of Family Physicians

South Carolina Academy of Family Physicians

Arkansas Academy of Family Physicians

Society of Teachers of Family Medicine

Association of Departments of Family Medicine

NAPCRG (a national primary care research organization)

Association of Family Medicine Residency Directors

Florida Public Health Association

New York State Public Health Association

North Carolina Public Health Association

Tennessee Public Health Association

Bread for the World

Christian Connections for International Health

Catholic Medical Mission Board

Community Health Impact Coalition

Project HOPE

Arkansas Community Health Worker Association

Board of Church & Society, Arkansas Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church

Board of Global Ministries, Arkansas Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church

Heart to Heart International, Kansas

Maryland Rural Health Association

Sunrise Rotary Club, Maryland

Institute for International Medicine, Missouri

OneWorld Health, South Carolina

Lwala Community Alliance, Tennessee

Fund for Global Health