April 27, 2022

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Chairwoman
Subcommittee on Labor, Health
and Human Services, Education,
and Related Agencies
2358-B Rayburn Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Tom Cole
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Labor, Health
and Human Services, Education
and Related Agencies
1016 Longworth Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman DeLauro and Ranking Member Cole:

We are writing to thank the Subcommittee for its past support of funding for gun violence research through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and respectfully request $60 million for gun violence research in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies appropriations bill, with $35 million dedicated to the CDC and $25 million dedicated to the NIH.

Gun deaths in the United States have reached unprecedented levels, with more than 45,000 Americans dying from gun violence in 2020—marking a 15 percent increase in gun fatalities. At least twice as many people were shot and survived an incident with gunfire. As we reflect on a seemingly endless string of horrific mass shootings and consistent news of community gun violence in our own districts, Americans of diverse backgrounds are joining with scientists and members of the public health community to demand decisive action from their elected leaders to keep our neighborhoods and communities safe.

Although Members of Congress may disagree about how best to respond to the high incidence of gun violence, we should all be able to agree that our response should be informed by sound scientific evidence. That’s why we are asking you to build upon your investment in preventing future tragedies by providing funds to CDC and NIH for the purpose of conducting public health research on gun violence. As you know, this research is consistent with other fatal injury prevention research conducted by the CDC such as research on intimate partner violence, motor vehicle injuries and drowning prevention. NIH also has a long history of supporting rigorous, peer-reviewed research on a wide variety of critical subjects, including ways to prevent injuries and deaths in children. We believe this research is laying the foundation for effective, evidence-based interventions that will save lives and make our communities safer.

Whether it is horrific mass shootings or the often-unreported gun violence that occurs every day in towns and cities across America —the need for action is clear. We hope there will be continued support for the research community to investigate evidence-based interventions that could help prevent gun violence. For these reasons, we strongly urge you to provide $60 million
for gun violence research in the FY2023 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies appropriations bill. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

David E. Price
Member of Congress

Robin L. Kelly
Member of Congress

Carolyn B. Maloney
Member of Congress

Mike Quigley
Member of Congress

Stephanie Murphy
Member of Congress

Lucy McBath
Member of Congress

David N. Cicilline
Member of Congress

Daniel T. Kildee
Member of Congress

Jake Auchincloss
Member of Congress

Nanette Diaz Barragán
Member of Congress

Karen Bass
Member of Congress

Donald S. Beyer Jr.
Member of Congress
Suzanne Bonamici  
Member of Congress

Anthony G. Brown  
Member of Congress

Salud Carbajal  
Member of Congress

Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick  
Member of Congress

Emanuel Cleaver, II  
Member of Congress

Steve Cohen  
Member of Congress

Gerald E. Connolly  
Member of Congress

Jim Cooper  
Member of Congress

Jason Crow  
Member of Congress

Danny K. Davis  
Member of Congress

Peter A. DeFazio  
Member of Congress

Diana DeGette  
Member of Congress

Val Butler Demings  
Member of Congress

Mark DeSaulnier  
Member of Congress

Debbie Dingell  
Member of Congress
Lloyd Doggett  
Member of Congress

Anna G. Eshoo  
Member of Congress

Dwight Evans  
Member of Congress

Lizzie Fletcher  
Member of Congress

Bill Foster  
Member of Congress

Jesús G. "Chuy" García  
Member of Congress

Jim Himes  
Member of Congress

Sara Jacobs  
Member of Congress

Mondaire Jones  
Member of Congress

Andy Kim  
Member of Congress

Conor Lamb  
Member of Congress

James R. Langevin  
Member of Congress

Rick Larsen  
Member of Congress

John B. Larson  
Member of Congress

Andy Levin  
Member of Congress
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