

March 11, 2016

Chairman Fred Upton
House Energy and Commerce Committee
2183 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Ranking Member Frank Pallone
House Energy and Commerce Committee
237 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Upton and Ranking Member Pallone:

I am writing on behalf of Prevention Institute to voice our opposition to H.R. 4725. This bill would, among other things, repeal the Prevention and Public Health Fund (Prevention Fund) to help pay down the federal deficit. Decimating the Prevention Fund to pay for other priorities will only serve to damage the long-term health and economy of our nation.

Since its inception in 2010, the Prevention Fund has been highly impactful in its efforts to keep communities across the country healthy and safe in the first place – helping to avoid costly treatments and care in the long-term. To date, the Prevention Fund has invested more than \$6 billion in resources to states, communities, and tribal and community organizations in support of community-based prevention, including tobacco use prevention, healthy eating, and active living, as well as childhood immunizations and clinical prevention. Eliminating these funds would destroy the important progress that has been made toward health, safety, and equity for all.

Prevention Institute is a non-profit, national center dedicated to improving community health and well-being by building momentum for effective primary prevention. Prevention Institute's approach fosters effective practice and knowledge about the critical elements of prevention. These include the value of community-level approaches; the importance of non-traditional partners; the promise of shifting norms; and an emphasis on organizational and systems change for the broadest and most sustainable impact.

We urge you to oppose H.R. 4725 and any other bill that repeals or reduces funding for the Prevention and Public Health Fund.



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CC: Members of the House Energy & Commerce Committee