



March 4, 2011

Dear Senator,

The National Safe and Healthy Housing Coalition, which represents a diverse group of public health, affordable housing, environmental, and energy-efficiency advocates, urges you to reject the House's proposed deep cuts in a host of federal healthy homes programs that are essential to protecting the nation's children and families from health hazards in and around their homes. We are deeply concerned that imposing such abrupt funding reductions will shred the protections that all Americans take for granted and will have unintended consequences that will be acceptable to no one.

The undersigned work hand-in-hand with federal agencies, including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to address hazards in housing and reduce asthma, lead poisoning, and injuries among our nation's children and families. Our collaborative approach is to invest in preventing these health impacts now, rather than to pay later in lost workforce productivity and expenses to our health care and special education systems.

Such cuts would place a great burden on states and localities, add to job losses, and further weaken the federal-state-local infrastructure that is essential to protect the health of Americans:

- **CDC:** A massive reduction to CDC will jeopardize public health by arresting key healthy homes efforts and other programs. Using the Prevention and Public Health Fund to offset cuts in ongoing CDC activities is wholly inconsistent with the Fund's purpose of advancing prevention by supplementing current prevention and public health resources.
- **HUD:** HUD's Healthy Homes and Lead Hazard Control Program has been ranked among the most successful federal government programs, with a high return on investment. Cutting this program will deny communities the resources to eliminate childhood lead poisoning and to reduce the burden of asthma. These diseases are most prevalent among our nation's most vulnerable, including low-income and minority children and families. These cuts will further exacerbate existing health disparities.
- **EPA:** EPA's Renovation, Repair, and Painting Rule (RRP) protects 1.4 million children from lead poisoning each year. The proposed continuing resolution will hamper EPA's ability to enforce this lead safety rule and arrest programs protecting us from pesticides, radon, CO, and other hazards.

We urge you to oppose any cuts to healthy homes programs in the FY11 Continuing Resolution. Now is the time to increase, rather than decrease our ability to adequately protect our nation's children and families. Thank you for your attention to protecting children from lead and other hazards in their homes as you face the difficult work of completing the FY11 budget.

National Organizations (*=member of NSHHC steering committee)

National Center for Healthy Housing*
Allergy and Asthma Foundation of America
American Society of Home Inspectors*
American Lead Poisoning Help Association

Children's Health Forum*
ClearCORPS USA
Lead and Environmental Health Association
National Association of Lead & Healthy Homes Grantees
National Association for State Community Services Programs
National Coalition to End Childhood Lead Poisoning*
Public Health Law and Policy
Rebuilding Together*
Safe Kids USA*
US Green Building Council*

Local and State Organizations and Individuals

Bay Area Get the Lead Out Coalition, San Francisco (CA-6-16)
Healthy Homes Collaborative, Los Angeles (CA)
Koreatown Immigrant Workers Association, Los Angeles (CA)
Inner City Law Center, Los Angeles (CA)
Los Angeles Community Law Center, Los Angeles (CA)
Jim Ratti, Environmental Lead Detect, San Francisco (CA)
Dennis Jordan, Alameda County (CA-9)
Perry Gottesfeld, Occupational Knowledge International, San Francisco (CA)
Tom Phillips (CA-3)
Audrey M. Gaines, Bridgeport (CT-4)
Lydia Brannin, Naugatuck Valley Health District, Seymour (CT)
Neil Freuden, EnviroPlan LLC, West Hartford (CT-1)
Penelope Craig, BLC Environmental Training and Assessment, Middletown (CT-1, 2)
Angela Wyan, Lead Safe DC (DC)
Ralph Scott, Parents for Non-Toxic Alternatives, Washington (DC)
Dawn Biehler, Department of Geography and Environmental Systems Gender and Women's Studies
Program University of Maryland, Baltimore County (DC)
Wesley Edwards, Ph.D., Affordable housing consultant, Hamilton (GA)
Anita Weinberg, Illinois Lead Safe Housing Task Force (IL)
Earl Coleman, Rick Lara, Sabina Sangoleye and Cheryl Judon, Chicago (IL-2)
Kevin Comer, Chicago (IL-3)
Patti S. Gregory-Chang, Chicago (IL-5)
Rachel Rosenberg, Safer Pest Control Project, Chicago (IL)
Emma Davis, Southeast Chicago Development Commission (IL)
David Becker, Center of Neighborhood Technology Energy, Chicago (IL)
William Villalona (IL-5)
A Community Voice ~ Louisiana (LA)
Health Resources in Action - Asthma Regional Council - Boston Healthy Homes/Schools Collaborative;
(MA-8, 9)
Stephen Frantz, Global Environmental Options (MA-2)
Megan Sandel MD, Boston Medical Center (MA)
Ellen Tohn, Wayland (MA)
David Turcotte, Massachusetts Asthma Action Partnership UMass Lowell (MA)
Richard Rabin, Arlington (MA)

Elisabeth Fost Maring, Ph.D., University of Maryland Extension, Department of Family Science (MD-5)
Courtney L. Wisinski, Lansing (MI)
Paul Haan, Healthy Homes Coalition of West Michigan, Grand Rapids (MI-3)
Sustainable Resource Center, Minneapolis (MN)
Judith Riehl, St. Louis Lead Prevention Coalition (MO-3)
Scott Gigrich, City of Eldon Codes Enforcement Department (MO)
Roger D. Lewis, PhD, CIH, Saint Louis University School of Public Health, St. Louis (MO-1)
Kee-Hean Ong, PhD, MPH, Saint Louis University School of Public Health (MO-2)
Kevin Kennedy, CIEC, Environmental Health Program, Allergy, Asthma, Immunology, Children's
Mercy Hospitals and Clinics, Kansas City (MO)
Omaha Healthy Kids Alliance, Omaha (NE)
Joseph Ponessa, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus, Housing, Indoor Environment & Health, Rutgers Univ. (NJ)
Jim Peralta, Lead Paint Risk Assessor, Interstate Property Inspections, Rochester (NY)
Coalition to Prevent Lead Poisoning, Rochester (NY)
Betsy Mokrzycki, Lead Program Manager, Syracuse (NY-25)
Pat Smith (NY-23)
David A. Binstock (NC-4)
Lorisa Seibel, Durham Affordable Housing Coalition. Durham (NC)
Phillip Bouton, HHS, Local Practitioner, Columbus (OH 12, 15, 7)
Marcheta Gillam, Legal Aid Society of Southwest (OH)
Stu Greenberg, Environmental Health Watch (OH)
Susan Smith, Mahoning Valley LEAP Grant Program (OH-17)
Robert Cole, Advocates for Basic Legal Equality, Toledo (OH-9)
Kate Monter Durban, Cleveland Housing Network (OH)
Kathleen Morris MSA, RN, Columbus (OH-15)
Todd Christophel, Lancaster (PA-16)
Michelle Lehr O'Connell, MGA, National Nursing Centers Consortium, Philadelphia (PA 1, 2, 13)
Shelly Yanoff, Public Citizens for Children and Youth, Philadelphia (PA 1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 13, 16)
Carla C. Campbell, Univ. of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (PA)
Joyce Ravinskas, PinnacleHealth Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program, Wilkes Barre (PA-11)
Armand C. Magnelli, Livable Housing, Inc., York (PA-19)
Roberta Hazen Aaronson, Childhood Lead Action Project (RI-1, 2)
Arlene Bowers Andrews, Blythewood (SC-2)
Faye Ralston, Tennessee Lead Elimination Action Program, Murfreesboro (TN-4, 5)
Norma Branch (TN-9)
Elizabeth A. Walsh, Doctoral Student, Community/Regional Planning, Univ. of Texas (TX-25)
Juan Parras, Texas Environmental Justice Advocacy Services, Houston (TX)
Queen Zakia Shabazz, United Parents Against Lead, Richmond (VA-7)
Cheryl Whitcomb (WA-1)
Joe Schirmer, Madison (WI)

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