January 29, 2004

Dear President Bush and Members of Congress:

The health of all Americans is at risk from an unprecedented range of threats, including: chronic diseases and disabilities, infectious and food borne illnesses, biological and chemical terrorism, mental disorders and substance abuse, catastrophic injuries, and a shortage of healthcare providers and trained public health workers.

Our nation’s public health system will not be able to respond adequately to these threats without additional resources for the continuum of medical research, prevention, treatment and training programs. We urge you to increase discretionary funding for public health through the Function 550 budget allocation in Fiscal Year 2005 by 12 percent. This investment is critical to improving the health, safety and security of our nation.

Sincerely,

AAHP-HIAA
Academic Health Centers Clinical Research Forum
Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research Funding
Administrators of Internal Medicine
Advocates for EMS
Advocates for Youth
Aeras Global TB Vaccine Foundation
AFSCME
AIDS Action
AIDS Alliance for Children, Youth & Families
AIDS Foundation of Chicago
The AIDS Institute
Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing
Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine
Alliance for Aging Research
Alliance for Healthy Homes
Alliance for Lung Cancer Advocacy Support and Education
Alpha-1 Association
Alpha-1 Foundation
Alzheimer's Association
Ambulatory Pediatric Association
American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology
American Academy of Anesthesiologist Assistants
American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
American Academy of Dermatology Association
American Academy of Family Physicians
American Academy of HIV Medicine
American Academy of Neurology
American Academy of Nurse Practitioners
American Academy of Pediatrics
American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
American Academy of Physicians Assistants
American Academy of Physicians
American Association for Cancer Research
American Association of Colleges of Dental Medicine
American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine
American Association of Colleges of Optometry
American Association of Child Psychiatrists
American Association of Colleges of Podiatric Medicine
American Association of Community Colleges
American Association of Diabetes Educators
The American Association of Immunologists
American Association of Neurological Surgeons
American Association of People with Disabilities
American Autoimmune Related Diseases Association
American Cancer Society
American Clinical Laboratory Association
American College Health Association
American College of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology
American College of Cardiology
American College of Chest Physicians
American College of Clinical Pharmacology
American College of Dermatology
American College of Gastroenterology
American College of Gastroenterology
American College of General Practice
American College of Geneticists
American College of General Internists
American College of General Practitioners
American College of Geriatric Medicine
American College of Gynecologists
American College of Physicians
American College of Preventive Medicine
American College of Rheumatology
American College of Surgeons
American Counseling Association
American Dance Therapy Association
American Dental Association
American Dental Education Association
American Dental Hygienists' Association
American Diabetes Association
American Dietetic Association
American Federation for Medical Research
American Foundation for AIDS Research
American Foundation for Urologic Disease
American Gastroenterological Association
American Geriatrics Society
American Heart Association
American Hospital Association
American Liver Foundation
American Lung Association
American Medical Rehabilitation Providers Association
American Medical Student Association
American Mental Health Counselors Association