

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

To fully fund the Prevention and Public Health Fund and reaffirm the importance of prevention in the United States healthcare system.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. BLUMENTHAL introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To fully fund the Prevention and Public Health Fund and reaffirm the importance of prevention in the United States healthcare system.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Public Health Funding
5 Restoration Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

8 (1) The Prevention and Public Health Fund
9 (section 4002 of the Patient Protection and Afford-
10 able Care Act (42 U.S.C. 300u–11) was designed

1 “to provide for expanded and sustained national in-
2 vestment in prevention and public health programs
3 to improve health and help restrain the rate of
4 growth in private and public health care costs”.

5 (2) Funding under such section is essential to
6 core efforts at the Department of Health and
7 Human Services and in State, local, Tribal, and ter-
8 ritorial health departments to prevent and control
9 the spread of infectious disease and prevent injuries
10 and the development of chronic conditions.

11 (3) Prevention and Public Health Fund dollars
12 support evidenced-based investments in tobacco use
13 prevention and cessation, nutrition, mental health,
14 childhood lead poisoning prevention, elder care ini-
15 tiatives, and immunizations, among other prevention
16 initiatives. Funding gives States and communities
17 the flexibility to respond to public health threats
18 that may be unique to their communities and bol-
19 sters the State, local, Tribal, and territorial response
20 to global public health threats.

21 (4) Such prevention efforts have shown to be
22 effective. Funding increases for community-based
23 public health programs reduce infant deaths and
24 preventable deaths caused by cancer, diabetes, and
25 cardiovascular disease. Every dollar spent on preven-

1 tion saves nearly \$6 in health spending and every
2 dollar spent on childhood vaccines saves \$16.50 in
3 future health care costs.

4 (5) Investments in prevention reduce the cost of
5 health care in the United States. \$2,900,000,000 in
6 investments in community-based disease prevention
7 is estimated to save \$16,500,000,000 annually with-
8 in 5 years.

9 (6) Cuts to the Prevention and Public Health
10 Fund and other public health prevention efforts un-
11 dermine efforts to create an affordable and acces-
12 sible health care system, and a better quality of life
13 for Americans.

14 (7) Cuts to the Prevention and Public Health
15 Fund endanger the ability of States and localities to
16 distribute vaccinations and public health information
17 successfully. The Prevention and Public Health
18 Fund is critical to the growth of the Centers for
19 Disease Control and Prevention's section 317 Immu-
20 nization Program and to the Epidemiology and Lab-
21 oratory Capacity program.

22 (8) Restoring Prevention and Public Health
23 Fund funding to \$2,000,000,000 annually will allow
24 the Fund to invest in more innovative, evidence-
25 based public health programs and maintain and ex-

1 pand investments in programs with demonstrated
2 success.

3 (9) Restoring Prevention and Public Health
4 Fund funding to \$2,000,000,000 will give the Cen-
5 ters for Disease Control and Prevention and State,
6 local, Tribal, and territorial health departments
7 funding that they need to invest in prevention ef-
8 forts that will help the country avoid future
9 pandemics and epidemics.

10 **SEC. 3. PREVENTION AND PUBLIC HEALTH FUND.**

11 Section 4002(b) of the Patient Protection and Af-
12 fordable Care Act (42 U.S.C. 300u-11(b)) is amended—

13 (1) in paragraph (4), by adding at the end
14 “and”; and

15 (2) by striking paragraphs (5) through (10)
16 and inserting the following:

17 “(5) for fiscal year 2026 and each fiscal year
18 thereafter, \$2,000,000,000.”.