

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3447

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

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 24, 2019

Ms. MATSUI (for herself, Mr. TONKO, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. WELCH, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. LEE of California, and Mr. LUJÁN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

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:

1 (1) The Prevention and Public Health Fund
2 (section 4002 of the Patient Protection and Afford-
3 able Care Act (42 U.S.C. 300u–11) was designed
4 “to provide for expanded and sustained national in-
5 vestment in prevention and public health programs
6 to improve health and help restrain the rate of
7 growth in private and public health care costs”.

8 (2) Funding under such section is essential to
9 core efforts at the Department of Health and
10 Human Services and in local and State health de-
11 partments to prevent and control the spread of in-
12 fectious disease, and prevent injuries and the devel-
13 opment of chronic conditions.

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

22 (4) Such prevention efforts have shown to be
23 effective. Funding increases for community based
24 public health programs reduce infant deaths and
25 preventable deaths caused by cancer, diabetes, and

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

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

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

15 (7) Restoring Prevention and Public Health
16 Fund funding to \$2,000,000,000 annually will allow
17 the Fund to invest in more innovative, evidence-
18 based public health programs and maintain and ex-
19 pand investments in programs with demonstrated
20 success.

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

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

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

1 (2) by striking paragraphs (5) through (9) and
2 inserting the following:
3 “(5) for fiscal year 2020 and each fiscal year
4 thereafter, \$2,000,000,000.”.

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