

Resolution 218-11

TITLE: PREVENTIVE HEALTH AND HEALTH SERVICES GRANT FUNDING

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Introduced by: California Academy of Preventive Medicine

Endorsed by:

Reference Committee

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This resolution constitutes a proposal for consideration by the California Medical Association House of Delegates and does not represent official CMA policy.

1 **WHEREAS**, to prepare for chronic disease program consolidation at the Centers for Disease
2 Prevention and Control, and as a casualty of deficit reduction pressures in Congress, funding for
3 the Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant (PHHSBG) has been zeroed out in
4 President Obama’s proposed Federal Fiscal Year 2012 budget; and
5
6 **WHEREAS**, the allocation of funds to California for the PHHSBG, which addresses leading
7 causes of death such as chronic diseases and injury control as well as public health agency core
8 functions and infrastructure, is only \$3.2 million for 2011-2012, has been decreased by 23%
9 each year for the past two years, and is slated for total elimination by October 2011; and
10
11 **WHEREAS**, the PHHSBG funds a variety of California public health programs such as the
12 Emergency Medical Services Authority, the Rape Prevention Program, California Healthy
13 Cities and Communities, California Community Fluoridation Initiative, California Heart Disease
14 and Stroke Prevention Program, California Active Communities, California Project LEAN
15 (Leaders Encouraging Activity and Nutrition), Prevention 2010, the Office of Multicultural
16 Health, and the Preventive Medicine Residency Program, and loss of funding will cause severe
17 cutbacks in services if not closure of these programs historically funded by this means; and
18
19 **WHEREAS**, elimination of PHHSBG funding also will result in the closure of the CDPH
20 Preventive Medicine Residency Program and the California Epidemiologic Investigation
21 Fellowship; threaten state surveillance of unintentional injuries by removing senior scientists
22 within the Safe and Active Communities Branch of CDPH; end CDPH’s efforts to increase the
23 percent of Californians receiving fluoridated water; prevent the California Heart Disease and
24 Stroke Prevention Program from meeting its public health mandate; and force a decrease of
25 activities related to community interventions to address primary prevention for hypertension and
26 cholesterol; and
27
28 **WHEREAS**, while the Obama Administration expects that essential public health programs can
29 be supported by the Prevention and Wellness Fund as a part of the new federal health care
30 reform act, there is no assurance that this fund will be available or that states will be authorized
31 to utilize it to replace PHHSBG funding without strong political pressure from organized
32 medicine; therefore be it
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1 **RESOLVED:** That CMA support the continuation of the Preventive Health and Health
2 Services Block Grant, or the securing of adequate alternative funding, in
3 order to assure preservation of many critical public health programs for
4 chronic disease prevention and health promotion in California and
5 nationwide, and to maintain training of the public health physician
6 workforce; and be it further
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8 **RESOLVED:** That this matter be referred for national action and communicated to
9 California's congressional delegation.
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11 **Current CMA Policy:**

12 CMA supports increasing the resources available to California's public health departments (HOD 204-97).
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14 **Fiscal Impact:**

15 Within budget