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Impact of Legislation to End the Prevention and Public Health Fund

Committee on Energy and Commerce
Democratic Staff

Investments in public health and disease prevention make our country healthier and more productive. These investments are some of the most cost-effective interventions in health and health care, with every \$1 spent in proven community-based programs yielding an estimated return of \$5.60.¹ The landmark Affordable Care Act established the Prevention and Public Health Fund, which provides \$1 billion in each of FY 2012, 2013, and 2014 (and \$13.5 billion total for FY 2012-FY 2022) to state and local public health entities for activities to address key health risk factors such as preventing smoking and tobacco use, increasing physical activity, and improving nutrition; and to strengthen state and local public health infrastructure.

Legislation to repeal the Prevention and Public Health Fund would have a significant impact in Kentucky and in Representative Guthrie's district, endangering millions of dollars in funding, and minimizing the ability for communities to address critical public health problems.

The impact of such legislation in Kentucky and in Rep. Guthrie's district includes:

- **Eliminating critical investments in public health and prevention.** Since 2010, Kentucky has received \$5 million from the Prevention and Public Health Fund.²
- **Impeding progress that counties within Kentucky can make in responding to factors that contribute to poor health and premature death.** In 2012, here is how each county within Rep. Guthrie's district scored.

<u>County</u>	<u>Rank on Health Factors³</u> <u>(of 120 total counties)</u>	<u>Rank on Health Outcomes⁴</u> <u>(of 120 total counties)</u>
Barren	18	43
Breckinridge	58	57
Bullitt	31	1
Daviess	9	23
Edmonson	93	27
Grayson	67	58
Green	56	55
Hancock	14	11
Hardin	22	15
Hart	82	38

¹ Trust for America's Health, *Prevention for a Healthier America: Investments in Disease Prevention Yield Significant Savings, Stronger Communities*, online at <http://healthyamericans.org/reports/prevention08/Prevention08.pdf>

² Department of Health and Human Services, online at <http://www.healthcare.gov/center>

³ Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute, *County Health Rankings & Roadmaps Project*, online at <http://www.countyhealthrankings.org>. "Health factors" include well-established measures on health behaviors, clinical care, social and economic factors, and physical environment.

⁴ *Ibid.* "Health outcomes" include well-established measures on mortality and morbidity.

<u>County</u>	<u>Rank on Health Factors (of 120 total counties)</u>	<u>Rank on Health Outcomes (of 120 total counties)</u>
Jefferson	55	33
Larue	44	26
Marion	57	37
Meade	51	13
Nelson	21	25
Ohio	35	46
Shelby	15	9
Spencer	24	4
Taylor	41	32
Warren	11	19
Washington	36	8