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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.<sup>1</sup> 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 Mississippi and in Representative Harper'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 Mississippi and in Rep. Harper's district includes:

- **Eliminating critical investments in public health and prevention.** Since 2010, Mississippi has received \$5.2 million from the Prevention and Public Health Fund.<sup>2</sup>
- **Impeding progress that counties within Mississippi can make in responding to factors that contribute to poor health and premature death.** In 2012, here is how each county within Rep. Harper's district scored.

<u>County</u>	<u>Rank on Health Factors<sup>3</sup></u> <u>(of 82 total counties)</u>	<u>Rank on Health Outcomes<sup>4</sup></u> <u>(of 82 total counties)</u>
Adams	44	73
Amite	58	40
Covington	48	30
Franklin	55	33
Hinds	16	34
Jasper	34	54
Jefferson Davis	40	74
Jones	17	32
Kemper	68	58
Lauderdale	13	26

<sup>1</sup> 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>

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

<sup>3</sup> 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.

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

<u>County</u>	<u>Rank on Health Factors (of 82 total counties)</u>	<u>Rank on Health Outcomes (of 82 total counties)</u>
Lawrence	50	64
Leake	52	56
Lincoln	8	35
Madison	1	7
Marion	62	79
Neshoba	36	50
Newton	14	14
Noxubee	69	36
Oktibbeha	5	5
Pike	56	60
Rankin	4	4
Scott	63	63
Simpson	38	53
Smith	11	66
Walthall	51	37
Webster	49	29
Wilkinson	64	78
Winston	54	51