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Impact of Legislation to End the Prevention and Public Health Fund

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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 Illinois and in Representative Shimkus' 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 Illinois and in Rep. Shimkus' district includes:

- **Eliminating critical investments in public health and prevention.** Since 2010, Illinois has received \$31 million from the Prevention and Public Health Fund.²
- **Impeding progress that counties within Illinois can make in responding to factors that contribute to poor health and premature death.** In 2012, here is how each county within Rep. Shimkus' district scored.

<u>County</u>	<u>Rank on Health Factors³</u> <u>(of 102 total counties)</u>	<u>Rank on Health Outcomes⁴</u> <u>(of 102 total counties)</u>
Bond	53	70
Christian	63	62
Clay	75	24
Clinton	13	17
Edwards	19	85
Effingham	12	31
Fayette	93	47
Gallatin	87	92
Greene	84	79
Hamilton	71	99

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 Factors³</u> <u>(of 102 total counties)</u>	<u>Rank on Health Outcomes⁴</u> <u>(of 102 total counties)</u>
Hardin	101	102
Jasper	52	81
Jefferson	89	90
Jersey	20	41
Johnson	73	64
Lawrence	90	88
Madison	78	75
Marion	97	87
Massac	77	96
Montgomery	51	76
Pope	91	72
Richland	40	49
Saline	69	98
Sangamon	16	68
Shelby	42	30
Wabash	58	55
Washington	21	15
Wayne	37	36
White	67	52
Williamson	64	93