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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 Kentucky and in Representative Whitfield'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. Whitfield'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. Whitfield'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>
Adair	87	60
Allen	76	47
Ballard	19	82
Butler	18	64
Caldwell	43	62
Calloway	7	3
Carlisle	23	80
Casey	86	79
Christian	75	51
Clinton	77	98

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>
Crittenden	83	89
Cumberland	89	100
Fulton	97	111
Graves	39	41
Henderson	33	72
Hickman	59	31
Hopkins	29	66
Lincoln	88	84
Livingston	46	77
Logan	63	39
Lyon	13	12
McCracken	12	45
McLean	30	93
Marshall	20	34
Metcalfe	98	87
Monroe	96	63
Muhlenberg	53	81
Ohio	35	46
Russell	60	35
Simpson	61	22
Todd	70	56
Trigg	64	85
Union	45	53
Webster	65	78