



National Association of County & City Health Officials

*The National Connection for Local Public Health*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**NACCHO Applauds Passage of the Labor, Health & Human Services  
(LHHS) and Education Appropriations Bill**

*—President Urged to Promptly Sign Bill—*

**Washington, DC, September 26, 2018** — The [National Association of County and City Health Officials](#) (NACCHO), representing the nation’s nearly 3,000 local health departments, commends Congress for passing the FY2019 Labor, Health & Human Services (LHHS) and Education Appropriations bill, and looks forward to the president signing it into law. The bill provides funding for the three departments for the fiscal year starting October 1.

It provides an additional \$2 billion to the National Institutes of Health (NIH), an increase of \$584 million to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), and a \$126 million increase to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

“Our local health departments are entrusted with protecting the health and well-being of our communities,” said NACCHO CEO Lori Tremmel Freeman. “We turn to them for help during infectious disease outbreaks, during natural disasters including hurricanes, floods, and wildfires, and as a resource for preventative care across the whole health

spectrum. To carry out their mandate, local health departments depend on the funds allocated by this bill. This financial support is critical for keeping our communities healthy and safe.”

The bill funds various programs that support local public health departments and their work to protect and improve health in their communities. Included in the bill is continued support for prevention and response to the opioid epidemic, and new funding to address the infectious disease challenges related to the epidemic. It also contains increased funding for emergency preparedness grants and CDC, as well as a new rapid-response fund for infectious disease emergencies.

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#### **About NACCHO**

The National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) represents the nation’s nearly 3,000 local health departments. These city, county, metropolitan, district, and tribal departments work every day to protect and promote health and well-being for all people in their communities. For more information about NACCHO, please visit [www.naccho.org](http://www.naccho.org).