

# Congress of the United States

## Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Donald J. Trump  
President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, D.C. 20500

The Honorable Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Health and Human  
Services  
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20201

May 19, 2025

Dear President Trump and Secretary Kennedy,

As Members of Congress representing the State of Florida, we write with deep concern about the recent termination of nearly \$2.5 billion in critical federal public health grant funding to our state. These grants support vital public health initiatives, including childhood immunizations, infectious disease control, mental health programs, and HIV prevention and treatment.

We are especially alarmed by the termination of \$42 million in grants for HIV research. Florida has the third-highest rate of new HIV diagnoses in the country, and our communities rely on these programs to test, treat, and prevent the spread of HIV. During your first term, you pledged your commitment to ending the HIV epidemic in the United States. We hope you will renew this commitment and reinstate these grants.

While we support transparency and accountability in government spending, abruptly terminating billions of dollars in grants creates confusion, undermines public health goals, and jeopardizes years of bipartisan investments in research and innovation. The misguided rationale cited in some termination notices, claiming research is based on “non-scientific categories” or “equity objectives,” reflects a fundamental misunderstanding of the scientific processes involved in pursuing medical research.

We urge you to reverse course and reinstate these critical funds. Florida’s universities, medical centers, and public health agencies are national leaders in developing and delivering health interventions. Their work is evidence-based, community-driven, and grounded in the real and pressing needs of the populations they serve.

Public health should never be a casualty of political ideology. Cutting off essential support for HIV research, mental health, childhood vaccination programs, and other public health initiatives will have devastating consequences—not just for Florida, but nationwide.

We urge an immediate review of the terminated grants and a reinstatement of funds. Our communities are counting on you to help them provide life-saving research, treatment, and care.

Sincerely,



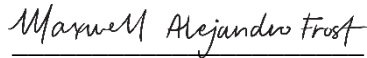
Lois Frankel  
Member of Congress



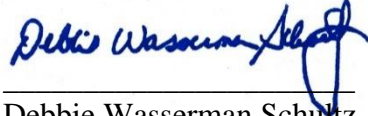
Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick  
Member of Congress



Frederica S. Wilson  
Member of Congress



Maxwell Alejandro Frost  
Member of Congress



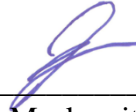
Debbie Wasserman Schultz  
Member of Congress



Kathy Castor  
Member of Congress



Darren Soto  
Member of Congress



Jared Moskowitz  
Member of Congress