



National Association of County & City Health Officials

*The National Connection for Local Public Health*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**NACCHO Statement on Senate Passage of  
the BIPARTISAN BUDGET ACT OF 2019**

*— Bipartisan, compromise legislation helps pave path for responsible public health funding levels —*

**Washington, DC, August 1, 2019** — The [National Association of County and City Health Officials](#) (NACCHO), the voice of the country’s nearly 3,000 local health departments, applauds the bipartisan effort that went into crafting the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2019, passed today by the Senate. The deal now heads to the President’s desk to be signed into law.

“Federal funding is critical to support public health agencies at the local level to keep communities across the country healthy and safe. This compromise legislation is critical. Without a new budget agreement, overall non-defense discretionary funding – including most of the federal dollars that go to support critical public health efforts – would have faced cuts by the equivalent of 12 percent across the board. That is unsustainable. As local health departments respond to emergencies, such as ongoing measles outbreaks and the opioid crisis, it is even more clear that strong funding levels are essential,” said NACCHO’s Chief of Government and Public Affairs Adriane Casalotti, MPH, MSW.

“We do note that this deal is not perfect, and the extension of funding reductions to the Prevention and Public Health Fund for future years continues to delay important

prevention efforts, vaccinations, and other initiatives from reaching communities. However, not reaching a deal on the overall budget caps would be far worse.

“We call on the House and Senate to quickly move forward to craft appropriations bills under the new budget limits that can pass before the September 30 end of the fiscal year so that local health departments can have the resources they need to do their important work in communities across the country.”

You can read more about NACCHO’s support of this bill [here](#).

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### **About NACCHO**

The National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) represents the nation’s nearly 3,000 local governmental 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).