

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 16, 2025

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito
Chair
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on
Labor, Health and Human Services, and
Related Agencies
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Tammy Baldwin
Ranking Member
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on
Labor, Health and Human Services, and
Related Agencies
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair Moore Capito and Ranking Member Baldwin:

As you consider Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 Labor, Health, and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies funding, we write to respectfully request at least \$2,008,079.000 in funding for the Substance Use Prevention, Treatment and Recovery Services (SUPTRS) Block Grant, in line with the *Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act, 2025*, which, signed into law by President Trump on March 15, provides level funding for the SUPTRS Block Grant for FY25 at \$2,008,079,000.¹ The SUPTRS Block Grant is the cornerstone of states' substance use prevention, treatment, and recovery systems; robust funding for the program is critical to combatting the overdose crisis facing our communities.

The ongoing opioid epidemic and associated overdose deaths is a public health crisis that requires a sustainable strategy with a strong commitment to SUPTRS. Overdose deaths, which are the leading cause of death for Americans aged 18-45, increasingly involve both opioids and stimulants, such as cocaine and methamphetamines.² In 2023, more than 70 million Americans aged 12 and older reported using illicit drugs in the previous calendar year. Despite the prevalence of substance use disorders and growing number of individuals in need of treatment, just 15% of those needing treatment received it.³ More must be done to support effective prevention, treatment, and recovery programs.

The SUPTRS Block Grant provides states and territories with the funding and resources they need to build robust prevention, treatment, and recovery services. In FY22, the most recent year for which data is available, more than 1.6 million Americans were admitted to SUPTRS programs. SUPTRS-funded programs are effective: at discharge, more than half of clients exiting SUPTRS-funded treatment programs were abstinent from drugs and alcohol, and the majority of clients had decreased access with law enforcement, and stable housing.⁴

¹ Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act, Pub. L. No.119-4.

² Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, *Drug Overdose Deaths in the United States, 2001-2021*, (dec. 2022), (online at <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/products/databriefs/db457.htm>).

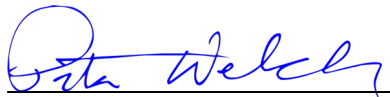
³ Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, *Key Substance Use and Mental Health Indicators in the United States: Results from the 2023 National Survey on Drug Use and Health*, page 43 (July 2024) (online at <https://www.samhsa.gov/data/sites/default/files/reports/rpt47095/National%20Report/National%20Report/2023-nsduh-annual-national.pdf>).

⁴ Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, *Highlights for the 2022 National Survey on Drug Use and Health* (Nov. 13, 2023) (online at

Congressional investment in the SUPTRS Block Grant is critical to supporting state efforts to respond to the overdose crisis. To that end, we urge you include at least \$2,008,079,000 for the program. These investments will strengthen communities, and more importantly, save lives.

We thank you for your leadership in addressing our nation's substance use epidemics.

Sincerely,



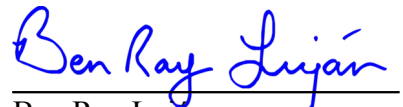
Peter Welch
United States Senator



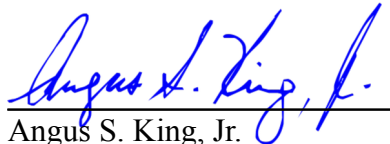
Alex Padilla
United States Senator



Jeanne Shaheen
United States Senator



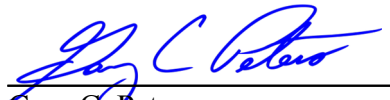
Ben Ray Lujan
United States Senator



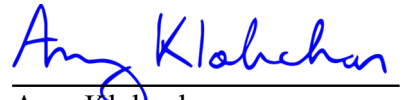
Angus S. King, Jr.
United States Senator




Elissa Slotkin
United States Senator



Gary C. Peters
United States Senator



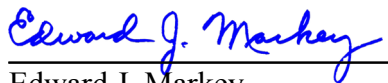
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Andy Kim
United States Senator



Angela Alsobrooks
United States Senator



Elizabeth Warren
United States Senator



Christopher A. Coons
United States Senator



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United States Senator



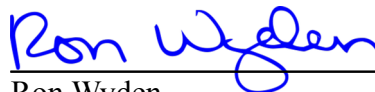
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United States Senator



Kirsten Gillibrand
United States Senator



Cory A. Booker
United States Senator



Ron Wyden
United States Senator