

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

March 24, 2026

The Honorable Robert Aderholt
Chairman
Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor,
Health and Human Services, Education, and
Related Agencies Related Agencies
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor,
Health and Human Services, Education, and
Related Agencies Related Agencies
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chair Aderholt and Ranking Member DeLauro,

Thank you for your leadership in addressing our nation's substance use epidemics. As you consider Fiscal Year (FY) 2027 spending priorities within the bill funding the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies, we are writing to request robust funding for the Substance Use Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery Services (SUPTRS) Block Grant, which is the cornerstone of States' substance use treatment, prevention, and recovery systems. The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2026 (H.R. 7148; P.L. 119-75), signed into law by President Trump February 3, provides \$2,013,079,000 for the SUPTRS Block Grant for FY 2026.

A sustainable strategy designed to address the substance use crisis in America must include a strong commitment to the SUPTRS Block Grant. In 2024, 73.6 million Americans aged 12 or older reported using illicit drugs in the past year. Specifically, the most commonly used illicit drugs in the past year were: marijuana (64.2 million), misuse of prescription pain relievers (7.6 million), hallucinogens (10.4 million), cocaine (4.3 million), misuse of prescription tranquilizers or sedatives (4.6 million), methamphetamine (2.4 million), heroin (556,000) and misuse of prescription stimulants (3.9 million). While the ongoing opioid epidemic remains a major public health concern, other substance use issues, including polysubstance use, alcohol misuse, and e-cigarette use require increased attention and resources. Among youth ages 12 to 20, 11.7 percent (4.5 million) reported using a tobacco product or vaping device to vape nicotine in the past month. Of the 134.3 million Americans who drank alcohol in 2024, 43.1 percent of them (57.9 million) were considered past month binge drinkers, and alcohol use continues to contribute to more than 178,000 alcohol-related deaths per year. It is clear more must be done to support effective prevention, treatment, and recovery programs.

The volume of deaths linked to the overdose epidemic is staggering. Since 1999, we have lost more than 1 million lives to a drug overdose. CDC reports that national drug overdose deaths linked to fentanyl, cocaine, methamphetamine, and semi-synthetic opioids, including prescription pain medication, decreased 26.2 percent from 2023 to 2024. The positive news continues with the CDC reporting preliminary data predicting an 18.9 percent decline in U.S. overdose deaths for the 12 months ending in September 2025. This data continues a promising trend first reported in 2023 where the United States saw a 3 percent decrease in drug overdose deaths (from 111,029 deaths in 2022 to 107,543 in 2023), marking its first annual decline in drug overdose deaths since 2018. As a result, we believe robust funding for the SUPTRS Block Grant must continue in order to maintain this important momentum.

The SUPTRS Block Grant, distributed by formula, allows States and Territories to support services that address any substance use issue they face within their own jurisdiction, resulting in exceptional outcomes. According to SAMHSA’s most recent Congressional Justification, more than 1.6 million people had been admitted to SUPTRS Block Grant-funded treatment services. Of clients discharged from SUPTRS Block Grant-funded treatment programs, 54.30 percent were abstinent from drugs, 78.54 percent were abstinent from alcohol, 95.08 percent had no arrests in the prior 30 days, and 89.34 percent had stable housing.

Further, a strong commitment to the SUPTRS Block Grant represents a strong commitment to primary prevention. In addition to treatment services, the SUPTRS Block Grant includes prevention funds that represent a large share of the primary prevention funding managed by State alcohol and drug agencies. Specifically, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) reports that “... some states rely solely on the 20 percent set-aside to fund their primary prevention systems while others use the funds to target gaps and enhance existing program efforts.”

Finally, full funding for the SUPTRS Block Grant helps ensure full funding for critical recovery support services. We know more than 20 million people in the United States are in recovery from a substance use disorder. People in recovery benefit from important programs and services to maintain their recovery. As a result, States across the country work with recovery community organizations and others to provide access to peer support services through SUPTRS Block Grant funding. We urge you to provide robust funding for the SUPTRS Block Grant as work progresses on FY 2027 appropriations. Sensible investments in the SUPTRS Block Grant will ultimately save money while strengthening communities, keeping families together, and, most importantly, saving lives.

Sincerely,



Paul Tonko
Member of Congress



Brian K. Fitzpatrick
Member of Congress



Sharice L. Davids
Member of Congress



Rashida Tlaib
Member of Congress



Derek T. Tran
Member of Congress



Terri A. Sewell
Member of Congress

Marilyn Strickland
Member of Congress

Hillary J. Scholten
Member of Congress

Richard E. Neal
Member of Congress

Andrea Salinas
Member of Congress

Nellie Pou
Member of Congress

Kim Schrier, M.D.
Member of Congress

Melanie Stansbury
Member of Congress

Timothy M. Kennedy
Member of Congress

Summer L. Lee
Member of Congress

Nikki Budzinski
Member of Congress

Joe Courtney
Member of Congress

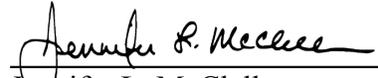
Jen A. Kiggans
Member of Congress

Val Hoyle
Member of Congress

Lori Trahan
Member of Congress



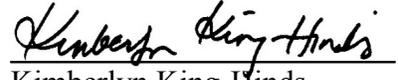
Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress



Jennifer L. McClellan
Member of Congress



Lateefah Simon
Member of Congress



Kimberlyn King-Hinds
Member of Congress



Steve Cohen
Member of Congress



Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress



Suzan K. DelBene
Member of Congress



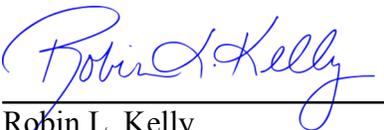
Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress



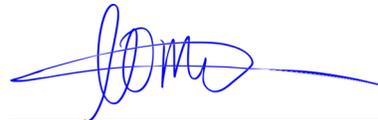
Greg Landsman
Member of Congress



Seth Magaziner
Member of Congress



Robin L. Kelly
Member of Congress



Ilhan Omar
Member of Congress



Raja Krishnamoorthi
Member of Congress



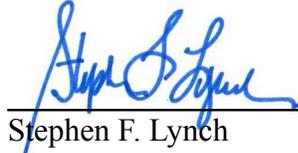
Michael V. Lawler
Member of Congress



Lucy McBath
Member of Congress



Josh Gottheimer
Member of Congress



Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress



Jahana Hayes
Member of Congress



Maxine Dexter
Member of Congress



Chris Deluzio
Member of Congress



Julie Johnson
Member of Congress



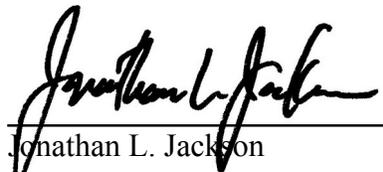
Dan Goldman
Member of Congress



Troy A. Carter, Sr.
Member of Congress



Brittany Petterson
Member of Congress



Jonathan L. Jackson
Member of Congress



Jamie Raskin
Member of Congress



Stacey E. Plaskett
Member of Congress



Greg Stanton
Member of Congress



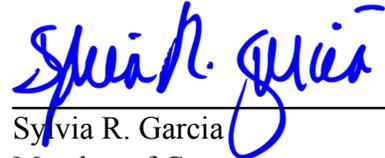
Doris Matsui
Member of Congress



Shontel M. Brown
Member of Congress



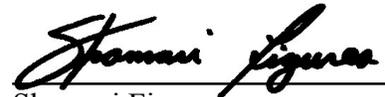
Patrick Ryan
Member of Congress



Sylvia R. Garcia
Member of Congress



Jimmy Panetta
Member of Congress



Shomari Figures
Member of Congress



Chris Pappas
Member of Congress



Sarah McBride
Member of Congress



Diana DeGette
Member of Congress



Derek Schmidt
Member of Congress



Bill Foster
Member of Congress



Chellie Pingree
Member of Congress



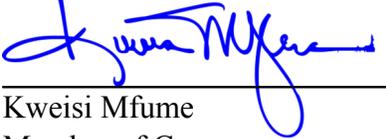
SETH MOULTON
Member of Congress



Donald Norcross
Member of Congress



Jared Moskowitz
Member of Congress



Kweisi Mfume
Member of Congress



George Latimer
Member of Congress



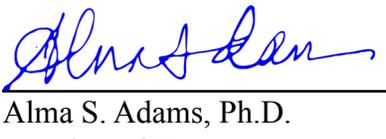
Angie Craig
Member of Congress



Jasmine Crockett
Member of Congress



Gabe Amo
Member of Congress



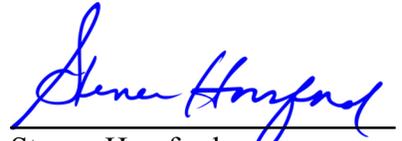
Alma S. Adams, Ph.D.
Member of Congress



Maggie Goodlander
Member of Congress



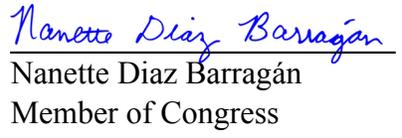
Brendan F. Boyle
Member of Congress



Steven Horsford
Member of Congress



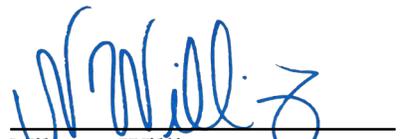
Becca Balint
Member of Congress



Nanette Diaz Barragán
Member of Congress



Jason Crow
Member of Congress



Nikema Williams
Member of Congress



Sean Casten
Member of Congress



Emilia Strong Sykes
Member of Congress



Lloyd Doggett
Member of Congress



Andre Carson
Member of Congress



Debbie Dingell
Member of Congress



Rick Larsen
Member of Congress



William R. Keating
Member of Congress



Wesley Bell
Member of Congress



Josh Riley
Member of Congress