

## **Proposed Report Language**

### **FY 2017 Labor, HHS and Education Appropriations Bill**

#### Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Section 317 Immunization.—The Committee rejects the reduction to the Section 317 Immunization Program proposed by the administration and provides \$650,000,000 to enhance core activities including the infrastructure for the Vaccines for Children program. The Committee believes a strong public health immunization infrastructure is critical for ensuring high vaccination coverage levels, the prevention of vaccine-preventable diseases, and for responding to outbreaks.

Vaccines are one of the greatest success stories in public health and are among the most cost-effective ways to prevent disease. Indeed, we know that for each dollar invested in the U.S. childhood immunization program, there are over ten dollars of societal savings and three dollars in direct medical savings. Moreover, childhood immunizations over the past twenty years have prevented 322 million illnesses, 732,000 deaths, and nearly \$1.4 trillion in societal costs. In the 2014 – 2015 season alone, flu vaccination prevented an estimated 1.9 million illnesses. Maintaining high vaccination coverage is vital for preventing epidemics of diseases that cause preventable illness, disability and death.

Cost Estimates.—The Committee is pleased with CDC’s report on estimated funding needs of the Section 317 Immunization Program and requests that the report be updated and submitted not later than February 1, 2017, to reflect fiscal year 2018 cost estimates. The updated report also should include an estimate of optimum State and local operations funding, as well as a discussion of the evolving role of the 317 program as expanded coverage for vaccination becomes available from private and public sources over the next several years.