

Greetings!

NAQC News Flash



Take Action to Save Prevention Money in the Economic Stimulus Package

Call Your U.S. Senators Today

NAQC is asking members to contact their Senators today to help preserve important prevention programs in the economic stimulus package. As you know, tobacco control and cessation are critical aspects of disease prevention. Although some of you may not be able to take this action as part of your job, we ask that you please consider taking action as a private citizen. Additional information from the Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids is included below. If you have questions and/or are able to contact your Senator, please let Randi Lachter know at rlachter@naquitline.org.

Please contact your Senators today and urge them to oppose cuts to wellness and prevention programs in the economic stimulus package. Tobacco control and other important prevention initiatives are in serious jeopardy.

Background

The Senate is currently debating the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The bill's \$5.8 billion for prevention and wellness programs is in jeopardy. Senators Ben Nelson (D-NE) and Susan Collins (R-ME) are drafting an amendment and are considering cutting prevention and wellness funding by 89%.

These funds are critical for strengthening public health and reorienting our health care system toward disease prevention. Prevention funds will create jobs and will benefit the economy by reducing health care costs. The economic downturn has resulted in states already cutting back on these programs at a time when more people need them.

Action

Please call your Senators to urge them to oppose cuts to wellness and prevention. This could happen today, so please call NOW. Also, please share this message with others. You can make the following points:

- I'm calling to urge Senator _____ to oppose cuts to wellness and prevention funding in the stimulus bill.
- Prevention and wellness programs not only create jobs but also benefit the economy by reducing health care costs and creating a healthier, more productive work force.

It is especially critical that the following Senators are contacted:

Nelson - NE - 202-224-6551; Bayh - IN - 202-224-5623
Bennet - CO - 202-224-5852; Begich - AK - 202-224-3004
Collins - ME - 202-224-2523; Conrad - ND - 202-224-2043
Landrieu - LA - 202-224-5824; Lincoln - AR - 202-224-4843
Lieberman - CT - 202-224-4041; Shaheen - NH - 202-224-2841
Tester - MT - 202-224-2644; Udall - NM - 202-224-6621
Udall - CO - 202-224-5941; Warner - VA - 202-224-2023
Webb - VA - 202-224-4024; Carper - DE - 202-224-2441
Klobuchar - MN - 202-224-3244; McCaskill - MO - 202-224-6154
Specter - PA - 202-224-4254

Thank you for your help with this effort.

Important Resources:

Full Name and Link to Your Senators:

[http://action.tobaccofreekids.org/site/PageServer?
pagename=view_legislators](http://action.tobaccofreekids.org/site/PageServer?pagename=view_legislators)

Contact Us With Questions

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email: naqc@naquitline.org

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