March 17, 2022

Hon. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

United States House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

**SUBJECT: COVID-19 Funding for Uninsured will Cease on March 22, 2022**

On behalf of (insert organization name), I am writing to ask you to urge Congress to act quickly to replenish funding for the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Uninsured Program.

On March 15, the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) announced that as of March 22, it would stop accepting reimbursement claims from providers who provide COVID-19 testing services for the uninsured and underinsured under the HRSA Uninsured Program. Additionally, reimbursement claims for COVID vaccinations won’t be accepted after April 5.

It is vital that Congress and the Biden Administration come to an agreement to ensure that funding for this important and necessary program continues.

The announcement by HRSA means, effectively, that laboratories and testing providers will stop providing COVID testing and vaccinations for all those who lack insurance, or are underinsured.

Needless to say, losing access to no-cost testing and vaccination will disproportionately impact the members of our society who are most at risk for COVID-19, and who are most vulnerable to the economic impacts such as missing work.

This is an especially risky time to end federal support for free COVID-19 testing and vaccinations for the uninsured:

* In most states, the mask mandate for K-12 schools has recently been lifted.
* Spring break is upon us, creating a greater potential for outbreaks.
* Mass testing for outbreak control allows kids to stay in school, for in-person learning.
* All labs will decisively cease testing the uninsured/underinsured community beginning March 18 unless the HRSA Uninsured Program is replenished.

COVID hasn’t vanished. It is on the rise again in other countries, and new variants can emerge. Cutting off access testing and vaccination for the uninsured will have dramatic health and economic impacts. Please find common ground and come together to fashion an agreement on continued funding of the HRSA Uninsured Program.

Sincerely,