

July 10 2020

The Honorable Alex Azar
Secretary
U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
200 Independence Ave, SW
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Secretary Azar:

We, the undersigned organizations, are committed to working with you, the Administration and Congress to meet the continued needs of the American public as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Together we represent millions of individuals working to address the unprecedented challenges the pandemic has presented to our society, our healthcare system, and our economy.

As such, we are writing to urge you to renew the current public health emergency (PHE) declaration for at least an additional 90 days before it expires on July 25. It is imperative that the federal government continue to deploy all resources and authorities necessary to protect the public and assist states and localities as they continue to respond to this urgent situation. As of the date of this letter, many states and localities are still experiencing dramatic increases in SARS-CoV-2 infections and hospitalizations due to COVID-19. At the same time, these areas are preparing for seasonal threats such as hurricanes, wildfires, influenza and more. Vaccines and therapeutics are still in development, and ensuring that public health care and other social services

In addition to the fact that it helps guard against complacency from the public while the threat of COVID-19 to the country remains high, an active PHE declaration has practical implications beyond mandated

have recently had their careers and safety

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care services and addressing excess death rates in communities of color among older adults

Association of Schools Advancing Health Professions
Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health
Association of State and Territorial Health Officials

Beckman Coulter

Big Cities Health Coalition

BioFire Diagnostics, LLC

Ceres Community Project

Children's Environmental Health Network

College of American Pathologists

Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists

CUGH

Cystic Fibrosis Foundation

Endocrine Society

Epilepsy Alliance America

Epilepsy Foundation

GenMark Diagnostics

Health Leadership Legacy Project

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Trust for America's Health
UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health
Washington State Department of Health
Youth Villages