

# Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Coalition

c/o American Public Health Association 800 I Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20001 202/777-2514

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September 5, 2007

The Honorable Robert Byrd  
Chairman  
Senate Appropriations Committee  
The Capitol, S-131  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Byrd:

The undersigned public health organizations strongly urge you to include the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as a member of the Commission on Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation as outlined in the House report accompanying the fiscal year 2008 Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill. We believe CDC must play a key role in helping the public prepare for and adapt to the potential health effects of global climate change. We urge you to support the inclusion of the commission in the final conference report and to ensure that the Director of CDC is included as a member.

CDC serves as the leader as well as the nation's expert resource and response center on many public health issues, including the key environmental health challenges faced by our state and local health departments. Because our state and local health departments will ultimately deal with the negative consequences associated with global climate change — from changes in vector borne diseases to impacts on drinking water supply to extreme weather events— we believe that it is vital that CDC play a key role in the development of proactive global climate change preparedness strategies for the federal government.

Thank you for your attention to our request. We have also enclosed a fact sheet outlining the public health impacts associated with global climate change. Please contact Don Hoppert with the American Public Health Association at 202-777-2514 if you have any questions regarding our request.

Sincerely,

American College of Preventive Medicine  
American Public Health Association  
Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology  
Association of Public Health Laboratories  
Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists  
National Association of City and County Health Officials  
National Association of Local Boards of Health  
Physicians for Social Responsibility  
Society for Public Health Education  
Trust for America's Health