**How does this support the national security of the United States?**

Support for global health funding is a moral imperative and a national security imperative. Nearly every Secretary of Defense who has served post-9/11 has called on Congress to increase funding for global development projects. In 2019, over 140 retired three and four-star generals urged Congress to increase funding for the International Affairs budget—noting that investments, non-military tools of development, and diplomacy foster economic and political stability on a global scale. While also strengthening our allies, fighting poverty and disease, and reducing the likelihood of terrorism and use of weapons of mass destruction.

* *Letter source: U.S. Global Leadership Coalition – National Security Advisory Council –* [*Letter text*](https://www.usglc.org/media/2019/03/March-26-2019-NSAC-Letter.pdf)

**How does this impact our state? / Why is this a good use of taxpayer dollars?**

The U.S. is a leader of global development and has supported proven, effective, and lifesaving global health programs for many years. These programs reduce poverty and suffering, increase the soft power and diplomacy of the U.S., and help create a more resilient, prosperous, and equitable world. By investing in global health, the U.S. is investing in the people and communities who will be a vital part of our global economy for years to come.

The world and global economy are becoming increasingly more interconnected and U.S. investments in global health and development can have a big benefit for people in our state. In 2021, our state exported $XX billion in goods to foreign markets. Increased trade bolsters the state economy and creates thousands of jobs. In 2021, XX companies exported goods from our state – XX percent of these were small- and medium-sized enterprises.

* *Customize with facts from your state from* [*USGLC in Your State Tool*](https://www.usglc.org/in-your-state/)