

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 30, 2026

Chair Lindsey Graham
Senate Appropriations Committee
Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations,
and Related Programs
Washington, D.C. 20510

Ranking Member Brian Schatz
Senate Appropriations Committee
Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations,
and Related Programs
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chair Graham and Ranking Member Schatz:

We write to request that you continue to show support for tuberculosis (TB) elimination by providing increased funding for bilateral TB control in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2027 State, Foreign Operations and Related Programs (SFOPS) Appropriations bill. We encourage this as a priority in addition to delivering on both past and current U.S. commitments to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria.

TB is the leading infectious disease killer and disproportionately affects people in the poorest and most vulnerable communities around the world. In 2024 alone, the Global TB Report found that TB sickened almost 11 million people and killed 1.23 million people. The fight against TB must be met with redoubled efforts to strengthen our global efforts to identify, treat, and prevent tuberculosis, including drug-resistant TB and TB infection.

In addition to the burden of preventable deaths, TB is a driver of poverty. TB is frequently economically devastating for individuals and families, and health care personnel are disproportionately at risk. Anyone who breathes is at risk of tuberculosis, but the immunocompromised, the elderly, and our youngest children are much more susceptible to the disease.

Delays or incomplete treatment for TB can have severe consequences. Drug-resistant TB is a leading cause of death from antimicrobial resistance (AMR) globally; multidrug-resistant (MDR) and extensively drug-resistant (XDR) TB are significantly more difficult and expensive to treat.

For a decade, TB has killed more people every year than HIV/AIDS and malaria combined. A strong baseline for a TB response is fundamental for any basic global health security standards. But TB programs continue to receive far less resources than are needed to effectively tackle the threat, even as new pathogens and drug-resistance issues grow.


Congress has consistently provided resources for the fight against TB, a clear demonstration of the strong bipartisan support for these programs across multiple administrations. We are heartened to see TB be identified as key priority within the State Department's America First Global Strategy. The Administration also celebrates the significant progress made against tuberculosis and highlights bold targets in the strategy, which include reducing TB cases by 80% by 2030 and TB deaths by 90% by 2030 (both compared to 2015 levels). As the U.S. government

finalizes bilateral MOU global health agreements with partner countries and implementation planning begins, it is a critical moment to invest boldly in the fight against tuberculosis.


Momentum has been building in recent years, with significant advances in diagnosis, treatment, and prevention. New innovations are coming online – many with the potential to save more lives provided they are accessible and affordable enough to reach patients in time. Additional resources are needed to scale these innovations so that they may reach resource poor areas. Thanks to U.S. research and investment, we now have shorter, more tolerable antibiotic regimens that can prevent TB infection from progressing to active disease. Experts have said we are within five years of a working TB vaccine, but investments in TB efforts must continue if this future is possible.

With the historic strain on TB programs, and as rates stagnate and TB deaths still claim over a million lives a year, we respectfully request that these programs be prioritized and protected in the FY27 funding bill. In order to meet the U.S. goals set for ending TB in this decade, increased resources are needed for the global TB response. We thank you for your consistent support of TB programming and urge you to make combatting TB a top priority in the FY27 State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations bill.


Sincerely,




Jacky Rosen
United States Senator



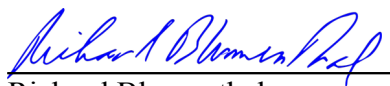
Todd Young
United States Senator




Tina Smith
United States Senator



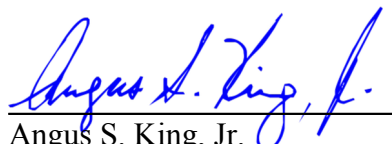
Christopher S. Murphy
United States Senator




Richard Blumenthal
United States Senator





Maria Cantwell
United States Senator



Angus S. King, Jr.
United States Senator

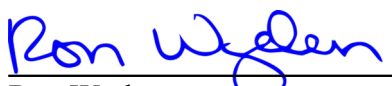

Mazie K. Hirono
United States Senator

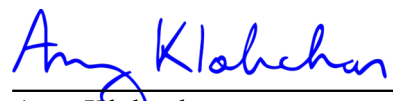

Elizabeth Warren
United States Senator



Kirsten Gillibrand
United States Senator

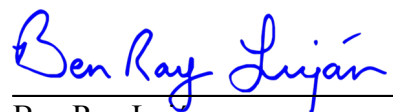

Jack Reed
United States Senator


Gary C. Peters
United States Senator



Ron Wyden
United States Senator

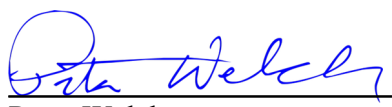

Amy Klobuchar
United States Senator

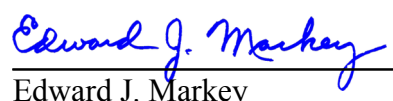

Angela D. Alsobrooks
United States Senator


Ben Ray Lujan
United States Senator


Andy Kim
United States Senator


Alex Padilla
United States Senator


Peter Welch
United States Senator

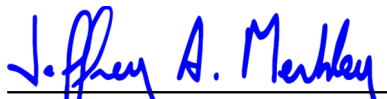

Edward J. Markey
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Sheldon Whitehouse
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth
United States Senator



Jeffrey A. Merkley
United States Senator



Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator



Raphael Warnock
United States Senator



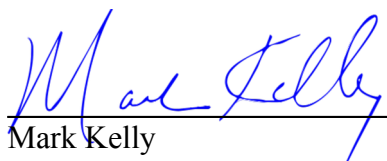
Catherine Cortez Masto
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Jeanne Shaheen
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Elissa Slotkin
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Mark Kelly
United States Senator



Cory A. Booker
United States Senator



Ruben Gallego
United States Senator




Adam B. Schiff
United States Senator



Chris Van Hollen
United States Senator



Margaret Wood Hassan
United States Senator

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M.F. Bennet", is written above a horizontal line.

Michael F. Bennet
United States Senator