

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

December 18, 2014

The President  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President,

Vaccines are one of the great medical miracles of the past century and millions of children here and around the world have been spared from diseases that can kill or cripple for life. To continue to bring these life-saving interventions to the world's children, we urge you to commit \$1 billion over four years to Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, at the January 2015 pledging conference. A US pledge of \$1 billion to Gavi will support efforts to immunize 300 million children and save over 5 million lives.

Where a child is born shouldn't determine whether they have access to vital vaccinations. Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, is working across the poorest countries to roll out vaccines in the hardest to reach places to ensure lifesaving vaccines reach the kids that need them the most. Since Gavi was founded in 2000, the U.S. has contributed approximately \$1.2 billion, supporting the immunization of almost half a billion children, and saving more than six million lives. This multilateral and public-private partnership enables countries to prevent unnecessary death, save tens of billions in economic loss and health care costs, and increase their work force capabilities and economic growth.

Gavi's work to provide new and underutilized vaccines to the poorest countries is a key driver in ending preventable child deaths by 2035. We commend your continued support for this bold goal and for challenging Congress during your 2013 and 2014 State of the Union addresses to join the world in ending extreme poverty and its most devastating consequences—particularly child death—in the next two decades. With vaccines, children stay healthy and have the opportunity to thrive.

In January 2015, Gavi will have its second donor replenishment conference. The goal for this replenishment is to mobilize an additional \$7.5 billion in investments from donors to meet the global need to immunize an additional 300 million children. If fully funded, this strategy is projected to save over 5 million more lives. A successful replenishment would also increase by 10-fold the proportion of children worldwide who are fully protected from vaccine-preventable diseases.

As the fourth largest donor to Gavi, U.S. leadership is critical to leveraging other donors and support poor countries that lack the full resources to properly vaccinate their children. All Gavi-

eligible countries help pay some portion of the vaccine cost, which reflects a key principle of country ownership of the vaccine programs, and is a critical part of Gavi's sustainability model. Furthermore, we are impressed by the partnerships created through Gavi's co-financing model and the work to support countries as they move from lower-income to middle-income economies as well as those countries that are set to graduate from Gavi support in the next strategic period.

We urge the Administration to make a strong and meaningful pledge of \$1 billion in new funding over four years at the upcoming Gavi donor replenishment conference. Through U.S. leadership in this area and continued strong funding for other key maternal and child health programs, we can reach the 2035 goal of ending preventable child deaths. We applaud your leadership on this issue and thank you for your attention to this important request.

Sincerely,

Adam S. Schiff

Edith L. Engle

Kamran

Jim Watson

Alan Brayson

Amritha

Mr. [unclear]

Sofern

Grace F. Napolitano

Min Van Hahn

Sandylen

Aunt M.C. Tomly

Gregory M. White

Irene Moore

Billie Ann

Jackie Ann

Stanford

John

Paul & Ruth

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Tom Lane

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Ken A. Wayman

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