

April 24, 2017

The Honorable Hal Rogers  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations,  
and Related Programs  
HT-2 The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nita Lowey  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations,  
and Related Programs  
1016 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Lindsey Graham  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations,  
and Related Programs  
127 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patrick Leahy  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations,  
and Related Programs  
125 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Rogers; Mrs. Lowey; Mr. Graham and Mr. Leahy:

U.S. global health assistance programs have delivered dramatic results, saved millions of lives and contributed to a healthier, more stable and prosperous world. We the undersigned organizations, all committed to strengthening U.S. global health assistance, request Congress' consideration to help end deaths from cervical cancer by integrating cervical cancer prevention and treatment into existing global health programs and platforms.

Cervical cancer, a disease that is both preventable and treatable, kills 266,000 women every year, as many as die during pregnancy and childbirth, and mostly in low- and middle-income countries. It is the most common cancer among women in 38 low- and middle-income countries. The disease heavily impacts women, their children and societies, and undermines other U.S. Government investments in global health – especially in HIV and AIDS. Women living with HIV are especially vulnerable to cervical cancer, and it makes no sense to save a woman from complications of AIDS, childbirth, or other health challenges addressed by U.S. global health programs, only to let her die from cervical cancer.

Cervical cancer prevention and treatment are proven, cost-effective U.S. global health and development interventions that reinforce the values and compassion of our country, and help address the root causes of poverty that are the source of instability in low- and middle-income countries. We request Congress to strongly consider maintaining funding for the International Affairs (150) account and request **FY 2018 State and Foreign Operations appropriations bill language** that focuses the U.S. Government's attention on cervical cancer:

“Within 180 days of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations a report on the impact of cervical cancer in priority high-prevalence, lower-income countries, together with a plan to scale up cervical cancer

vaccination for girls and screening and treatment services for women in those countries.”

We respectfully request Congress to consider including this bill language in the FY 2018 SFOPS bill. Thank you for your leadership and attention to these critically important issues. If you need additional information, or if you would like to meet with us to discuss these requests, please contact Jennie Aylward at Pink Ribbon Red Ribbon ([jaylward@pinkribbonredribbon.org](mailto:jaylward@pinkribbonredribbon.org), 202-487-5078) or Paul Holmes at American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network ([paul.holmes@cancer.org](mailto:paul.holmes@cancer.org), 202-585-3267).

Sincerely,

American Academy of Pediatrics  
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network  
American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists  
American Society for Clinical Pathology  
AVAC  
Bristol-Myers Squibb Foundation  
Center for Health and Gender Equity  
Cervical Cancer-Free Coalition  
Christian Connections for International Health  
CureCervicalCancer  
Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation  
Friends of the Global Fight Against AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria  
Global Health Council  
Global Initiative Against HPV and Cervical Cancer (GIAHC)  
Global Oncology  
IMA World Health  
Jhpiego – an affiliate of Johns Hopkins University  
Management Sciences for Health  
MobileODT  
PATH  
Pink Ribbon Red Ribbon  
Population Services International  
Project Concern International  
Public Health Institute  
RTI International  
University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center  
Varian  
Young Professionals Chronic Disease Network

cc: Members, Senate Subcommittee State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs  
Members, House Subcommittee State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs