Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

November 21, 2022

The Honorable Shalanda Young Director Office of Management and Budget 725 17th St. NW Washington, DC 20503

Dear Director Young,

As you work to develop the President's Budget Request for Fiscal Year 2024, we request that you include a well-developed proposal for financing President Biden's Global Health Worker Initiative. Unfortunately, the President's request for a specific line item for the global health workforce was not included in the FY23 House-passed State and Foreign Operations bill due to a lack of support for mandatory funding for such a request. Nevertheless, the demand for health workers is increasing with growing health demands from new and emerging pathogens, aging populations, climate shocks, and increasing conflict and migration, resulting in workforce shortages. A comprehensive funding proposal that relies on discretionary funding is necessary to ensure a well-trained, protected, well-equipped, and supported healthcare workforce across the globe.

The United States has made major strides in global health and the fight against disease, working with partner countries and based on an ongoing commitment by the U.S. that has enjoyed strong bipartisan support over the years. In no small part, the progress we have seen is due to the tremendous determination of frontline health workers, the majority of whom are women, and their willingness to go the extra mile to meet the needs of communities. The Biden Administration's Global Health Worker Initiative, once fully funded, would provide critical support to the global health workforce, including protecting health workers; expanding the workforce to address critical shortages; advancing equity and inclusion, including strengthening leadership opportunities for women; and, investing in technological solutions, including digital systems to support data for decision making and better management. A strong, motivated and well-managed health workforce is critical to pandemic response, ensuring long term progress in the fight against diseases, including HIV, TB, malaria, and ensuring progress in maternal and child health.

While the U.S. has, to date, invested in the global health workforce through programs like PEPFAR and the President's Malaria Initiative, we support the President's call for additional U.S. investments to address the global health workforce shortage. This initiative represents a diplomatic opportunity for the U.S., and we are hopeful that health system strengthening, and the workforce will be a key topic at your upcoming U.S. Africa Leaders' Summit. We have the opportunity to demonstrate to our partners in Africa the United States' commitment to robust

investment in the global health workforce, which could galvanize partner countries to make similar investments.

Thank you for your leadership on these critical matters. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Member of Congress

Jan Schakowsky Member of Congress

André Carson

André Carson

Member of Congress

Juan Vargas

Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Member of Congress

James P. McGovern

Member of Congress

Rashida Tlaib

Member of Congress

Eleanor Holmes Norton

Member of Congress

Manette Diaz Barragán Member of Congress

Dwight Evans

Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Vake Auchincloss Member of Congress

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Lloyd Doggett Member of Congress Colin Z. Allred Member of Congress

Ami Bera, M.D. Member of Congress

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