



Individuals enhancing the health and quality of life
through the suppression of mosquitoes, other vectors
and pests of public health importance.



A Partner in the EPA's Pesticide Environmental Stewardship Program

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The Honorable ____
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator ____:

The American Mosquito Control Association (AMCA) would like to express our strong support of programs for mosquito-borne and other vector-borne disease surveillance and control, including programs to address emerging infectious mosquito-borne diseases at the local and regional level, as reflected in the *Strengthening Mosquito Abatement Safety Health Act (SMASH Act)* passed into law on June 24, 2019.

We applaud Congress' recent actions in enactment of the SMASH Act, incorporated within the *Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness and Advancing Innovation Act (PAHPA)* [PL: 116-22], which authorized Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) resources to be used to address emerging infectious mosquito-borne disease and to improve existing control programs for the protection of public health in our nation. As such, critical funding pursuant to the SMASH Act is needed as public health agencies must be fully prepared to meet the challenges of lethal mosquito-borne illness, and the measure provides the necessary framework to confront this public health threat.

Therefore, within the FY20 Labor HHS Appropriations bill, \$100 million is requested for the CDC Division of Vector-Borne Diseases in grants for mosquito control programs as designated under the recently enacted SMASH Act to be used to address emerging, infectious mosquito-borne diseases and to improve existing control programs.

Providing SMASH Act appropriations funding will ensure that adequate and effective resources are available for critical mosquito control efforts to safeguard public health. Although long overdue, funding such critical resources within the SMASH Act will substantially further our nation's core values of protecting public health into the future.

Thank you and your timely consideration is appreciated.

Sincerely,

**American Mosquito Control Association
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