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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 24, 2012

Thomas R. Frieden, MD, MPH
Director
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
1600 Clifton Road
Atlanta, Georgia 30333

Dear Director Frieden:

As the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reviews the proposal for Ohio's five-year cancer prevention funding, I urge you to consider the Ohio Department of Health's request for an additional $500,000 in funding to support cancer prevention programs in Ohio.

Additional funding to the Ohio Department of Health allows the agency to fund excellent programs in Ohio aimed at reducing cancer incidents. One such program is the Ohio Partnership for Cancer Control (OPCC). The OPCC is an unique partnership involving the Ohio Department of Health, the American Cancer Society, Ohio hospitals and universities, health care professional associations, minority health coalitions, and community organizations working together to reduce cancer's impact in Ohio. The OPPC has developed fourteen goals that OPCC is working to meet by the end of 2014. These goals include: enhancing cancer data; lowering tobacco use; improving breast, colon, and cervical cancers screenings; increasing vaccination rates for HPV and Hepatitis B; and reducing exposure to ultraviolet radiation both from the sun and tanning beds. These objectives are vital to reducing cancer's effect on the state of Ohio.

Additional funds will assist the state in increasing submissions to the cancer registry from 75 percent to at least 90 percent of cancer cases. A comprehensive cancer registry ensures that communities and scientists can identify trends. Because the OPCC includes such a wide array of organizations – including leading cancer research institutes – additional funding will help support the best and the brightest as they develop model practices to prevent and treat cancer.

By supporting this request, the Ohio Department of Health can continue its strong commitment to reducing Ohio cancer rates. I ask that you give this request full and fair consideration and that you keep my office informed of the status of this application.

Sincerely,

Sherrod Brown

Sherrod Brown
United States Senate

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