

June 15, 2016

The Honorable Robin Kelly  
Health Braintrust Chair  
Congressional Black Caucus  
1239 Longworth HOB  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Barbara Lee  
Health Task Force Co-Chair  
Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus  
2267 Rayburn HOB  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Ami Bera  
Health Task Force Co-Chair  
Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus  
1535 Longworth HOB  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Michelle Lujan Grisham  
Health Task Force Co-Chair  
Congressional Hispanic Caucus  
214 Cannon HOB  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Raul Ruiz  
Health Task Force Co-Chair  
Congressional Hispanic Caucus  
1319 Longworth HOB  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Re: Organizational Endorsement of the Health Equity & Accountability Act of 2016

Dear Representative Kelly and Members of the Congressional TriCaucus:

As organizations committed to achieving health equity, we are writing to express our organizational support of the Health Equity and Accountability Act (HEAA) of 2016.

Since the 108th Congress, the Health Equity and Accountability Act (HEAA) has provided a comprehensive legislative approach to eliminate health disparities and achieve health equity. This year's reintroduction of HEAA signals the ongoing need to establish additional federal resources and policies, as well as the infrastructure necessary to improve access to quality care and better health outcomes for racial and ethnic minorities and other underserved populations who face barriers to care.

HEAA 2016 is comprised of the following titles that include provisions to address a wide spectrum of inequities that persist in health care access, quality and outcomes.

These titles are:

1. Data collection and reporting;
2. Culturally and linguistically appropriate health care;
3. Health workforce diversity;
4. Improvement of health care services;
5. Improving health outcomes for women, children and families;
6. Mental health;
7. High-impact minority diseases;
8. Health information technology;
9. Accountability and evaluation; and
10. Social determinants and environmental justice.

Importantly, the bill also addresses the need for meaningful data collection to better inform our understanding of the health disparities that continue to plague this nation and strengthen the network of care delivery through the support of community based organizations.

Achieving health equity remains to be a fundamental challenge for society. It is imperative that we work together to help eliminate the significant cultural, physical, social and economic barriers that continue to prohibit communities of color and other persons from obtaining quality care and achieving equitable health outcomes. HEAA 2016 is an important piece of legislation that provides the necessary framework to build on the progress of the Affordable Care Act.

We thank you for your leadership and steadfast commitment to achieve health equity.

Sincerely,

**HEAA Coalition Lead Organization**

National Urban League

**National Organizations**

30 for 30 Campaign  
9to5, National Association of Working Women  
ADAP Advocacy Association (aaa+)  
Advocates for Youth  
Aging Life Care Association™  
AIDS Alliance for Women, Infants, Children, Youth & Families  
The AIDS Institute  
AIDS United  
American Association of Birth Centers  
American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy  
American Association on Health and Disability  
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network  
American College of Nurse-Midwives  
American Heart Association  
American Kidney Fund  
American Psychological Association  
American Public Health Association  
American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery  
American Society on Aging  
American Thoracic Society  
Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum  
Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations  
Association of Black Cardiologists  
Association of Minority Health Professions Schools  
Association of Nurses in AIDS Care  
Association of Reproductive Health Professionals  
Black Women's Health Imperative  
Breast Cancer Action  
Caring Across Generations  
CenterLink: The Community of LGBT Centers

Coalition for Disability Health Equity  
Coalition for Disability Health Equity  
Community Access National Network (CANN)  
Community Catalyst  
Directors of Health Promotion and Education  
Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund (DREDF)  
Empowering Pacific Islander Communities  
Families USA  
Family Equality Council  
Family Voices  
George Washington University, Department of Health Policy and Management  
GLMA: Health Professionals Advancing LGBT Equality  
Hepatitis Foundation International  
Hispanic Dental Association (HDA)  
IMPRINT  
Lakeshore Foundation  
Law Students for Reproductive Justice  
MomsRising  
NAACP  
NAPAFASA  
NASTAD (National Alliance of State & Territorial AIDS Directors)  
National Association of Certified Professional Midwives  
National Association of County and City Health Officials  
National Black Women's HIV/AIDS Network, Inc.  
National Center for Lesbian Rights  
National Center for Transgender Equality  
National Coalition of STD Directors  
National Collaborative for Health Equity  
National Council for Diversity in the Health Professions  
National Council of Asian Pacific Americans (NCAPA)  
National Council of Asian Pacific Islander Physicians  
National Council of Jewish Women  
National Council of Jewish Women  
National Council of La Raza (NCLR)  
National Family Planning and Reproductive Health Association  
National Health Law Program  
National Hispanic Health Foundation  
National Hispanic Medical Association  
National Immigration Law Center  
National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health  
National LGBTQ Task Force Action Fund  
National Network of Abortion Funds  
National Partnership for Women & Families  
National Viral Hepatitis Roundtable  
National WIC Association  
National Women's Health Network  
National Women's Law Center  
Institute for the Study of "Race" and Social Justice

NMAC  
Obesity Action Coalition  
Obesity Medicine Association  
The Obesity Society  
Pacific American Foundation  
Planned Parenthood Federation of America  
The Praxis Project  
Prevention Institute  
Raising Women's Voices for the Health Care We Need  
Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice  
Sexuality Information and Education Council of the U.S. (SIECUS)  
Shape Up America!  
Sleep Research Society  
Southeast Asia Resource Action Center  
Summit Health Institute for Research and Education, Inc.  
Upwardly Global  
Welcome Back Initiative  
World Education Services (WES)

### **State Organizations**

#### **Alabama**

AIDS Alabama  
Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine, Nursing, and Allied Health

#### **Arizona**

Asian Pacific Community in Action

#### **California**

AIDS Project Los Angeles  
APLA Health & Wellness  
Asian & Pacific Islander Wellness Center  
California Immigrant Policy Center  
California Latinas for Reproductive Justice  
California Pan-Ethnic Health Network  
TOFA Inc.  
California Consortium of Addiction Programs and Professionals

#### **Colorado**

Colorado Organization for Latina Opportunity and Reproductive Rights (COLOR)

#### **Connecticut**

CT Coalition of Mutual Assistance Associations, Inc.  
Lao Association of Connecticut, Inc.  
Network 4 Health

#### **Florida**

Hispanic Health Initiatives, Inc.

**Georgia**

Center for Pan Asian Community Services Inc.  
Morehouse School of Medicine  
Vietnamese American Community of Georgia, Inc.

**Illinois**

ASIAN HEALTH COALITION  
EverThrive Illinois

**Kentucky**

Kentucky Equal Justice Center

**Louisiana**

MQVN Community Development Corporation

**Massachusetts**

Southeast Asian Coalition of Central Massachusetts  
DISABILITY Policy Consortium

**Michigan**

Healthy Asian Americans Project

**Mississippi**

Boat People SOS-Gulf Coast  
Steps Coalition

**Missouri**

Empower Missouri

**New Jersey**

New Jersey Citizen Action

**New Mexico**

NM Statewide Race Gender Class Data Policy Consortium  
Southwest Women's Law Center

**New York**

Apicha Community Health Center  
Center for Independence of the Disabled, NY  
Claire Heureuse Community Center, Inc.  
Coalition for Asian American Children and Families  
Community Service Center of Greater Williamsburg  
Korean Community Services of Metropolitan New York  
New Yorkers for Accessible Health Coverage  
Oxford Family Group Day Care  
Violence Intervention Program

**North Carolina**

Gaston Family Health Services  
HealthNet Gaston  
North Carolina Justice Center

**Ohio**

Asian American Community Services  
Asian Services In Action  
Ohio Asian American Health Coalition  
Universal Health Care Action Network of Ohio

**Oregon**

Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon

**Pennsylvania**

Welcoming Center for New Pennsylvanians  
Public Citizens for Children and Youth

**Rhode Island**

Center for Southeast Asians

**South Carolina**

SC Appleseed Legal Justice Center

**Tennessee**

Meharry Medical College  
Tennessee Justice Center

**Texas**

Senior Community Outreach Services, Inc.

**Utah**

National Tongan American Society