

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

May 29, 2025

The Honorable Russell Vought
Director
Office of Management and Budget
725 17th Street NW
Washington, DC 20503

Matthew Buzzelli
Chief of Staff, Immediate Office of the Director
U.S. Centers for Disease Control & Prevention
395 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20024

Director Vought and Mr. Buzzelli:

As President Trump and his administration finalize the Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) budget request, we ask that you include \$5 million for the Flint Lead Exposure Registry (Flint Registry).

The Flint Registry was created and funded by Congress in 2016 to respond to the Flint water crisis and connect families to the services they need to minimize the impact of lead on their health. As a CDC-designated public health authority, the Flint Registry is a community-based effort to identify individuals exposed to lead during the Flint water crisis and improve their health and development through connections to critical health care and other resources. The Flint Registry provides a framework for evidence-based interventions to help any community respond to lead exposure. In addition to Flint, the Flint Registry has also provided help to other communities, including Benton Harbor, Michigan, Newark, New Jersey and Oahu, Hawaii.

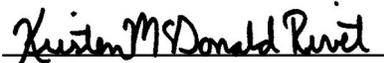
Lead exposure results in serious and long-lasting consequences, especially for children. Health experts warn that there is no safe level of exposure to lead and that it can have lifelong impacts on health, including behavioral, endocrine and cardiovascular conditions, as well as learning difficulties and neurodevelopmental deficits. Lifelong consequences require longitudinal surveillance and support.

To date, the Flint Registry has voluntarily enrolled over 22,259 people and completed over 35,156 referrals. Referrals have been made to critical lead exposure-mitigating services like health care, nutrition, early education, lead elimination and more. As intended, the Flint Registry is objectively sharing how Flint is doing and identifying and meeting unmet community needs.

The Flint Registry is a powerful tool to improve the lives of those exposed to lead-contaminated water. Flint's water crisis is not an anomaly; it is a warning to other communities that we must get more serious about removing lead from our communities. As a built public health infrastructure asset, the Flint Registry continues to serve as a recovery model for impacted communities across the country that continue to suffer disparately from preventable lead exposure.

The CDC has described the Flint Registry as an “innovative, one-of-a kind Lead Exposure Registry, creating the model for the nation’s first lead-free city.” While we recognize the current fiscal challenges facing the nation, maintaining the current funding level of \$5 million in FY 2026 will ensure the Flint Registry can effectively deliver its existing programming and continue supporting the Flint community’s recovery from the water crisis.

Sincerely,


Kristen McDonald Rivet
Member of Congress


John R. Moolenaar
Member of Congress

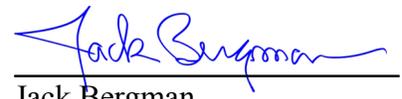

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United States Senator


Elissa Slotkin
United States Senator

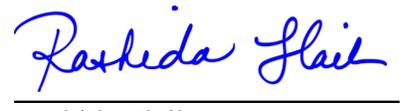

Tim Walberg
Member of Congress

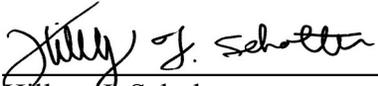

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Member of Congress


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Member of Congress


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Haley M. Stevens
Member of Congress

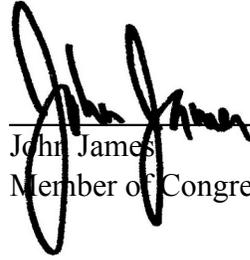

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