



May 14, 2025

**Statement for the Record**  
**Joe Nadglowski, President & CEO**  
**U.S. House Committee on Appropriations**  
**Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies**  
**“Budget Hearing - U.S. Department of Health and Human Services”**

Thank you, Chairman Aderholt, Ranking Member DeLauro, and members of the Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies for the opportunity to submit a statement on the proposed budget for the Department of Health and Human Services in fiscal year 2026. We appreciate your attention to the funding for the agency and the critical programs and services it provides to Americans.

The Obesity Action Coalition (OAC) is the leading national non-profit organization dedicated to serving people living with the disease of obesity through awareness, support, education, and advocacy. Our vision is to create a society where all individuals are treated with respect and without discrimination or bias, regardless of their size or weight. We strive for those affected by the disease of obesity to have the right to access safe and effective treatment options. OAC has a strong and growing membership of more than 85,000 individuals across the United States.

Obesity and overweight now affect over 70% of American lives and are the leading causes of preventable chronic diseases. The Center for Disease Control’s National Center for Chronic Diseases Prevention and Health Promotion, which oversees the operation of nine chronic disease divisions including the Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Obesity (DNPAO). OAC is deeply concerned with President Trump’s initial budget request proposing to eliminate the Center for Chronic Diseases Prevention and Health Promotion, categorizing it as a “duplicative, DEI, or simply unnecessary program.” The OAC firmly believes that the elimination of the National Center for Chronic Diseases Prevention and Health Promotion would be detrimental to the public health infrastructure and would undermine the administration’s objective to reduce chronic disease in the U.S. and address the diabetes epidemic.

Specifically, the DNPAO focuses on obesity prevention and treatment through identification of evidence-based interventions and quality standards. The work of this division is critical to addressing obesity disease prevention and treatment. OAC strongly encourages HHS to ensure the continuation of DNPAO programs and data, including, but not limited to:

- CDC Extended BMI-For-Age Growth Charts



*"Our Mission, Your Voice: Empowering Change Together"*

- ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Codes
- Child Obesity Clinical Quality Measure
- Child Obesity Care Quality Improvement
- Family Healthy Weight Programs

These programs are evidence-based and vital to the health of the nation. Given the administration's focus on addressing chronic diseases, we need these programs now more than ever. The DNPAO must remain intact as part of the Department of Health and Human Services.

Thank you again for the opportunity to submit this statement for the record. As the federal government continues to address the obesity epidemic, the OAC looks forward to continuing to work with Congress to ensure our community continues to benefit from the critical work of federal agencies currently conducting on behalf of people with obesity. <sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Submitted for the record at: [LH.Approp@mail.house.gov](mailto:LH.Approp@mail.house.gov)