



Thomas A. Schatz
President

October 17, 2007

U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator,

This week you are considering H.R. 3043, the fiscal 2008 Labor-HHS-Education and Related Agencies Appropriations Act. Sens. Tom Coburn (R-Okla.) and Jon Kyl (R-Ariz.) will offer S. Amdt. 3320 that will eliminate the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Entertainment Education program. This program acts as the liaison to Hollywood for such shows as "ER," "Grey's Anatomy," and "Girlfriends." On behalf of the more than 1.2 million members and supporters of the Council for Citizens Against Government Waste (CCAGW), I ask that you support S. Amdt. 3320.

Hollywood is a multi-billion dollar industry. Since the creation of the CDC's Entertainment Education program, more than \$2 million has been spent to provide advice for script development and more funding is on the way. Taxpayers should not be footing this bill. The producers of these shows should hire private consultants to provide them the accurate and technical health information required to fabricate their fictional television shows.

The amendment would also eliminate funding for the little utilized ombudsman program and prevent the CDC from purchasing additional rotating pastel lights, zero-gravity chairs, or dry heat saunas for the agency's fitness center.

This amendment would not take funding away from the CDC. It simply prevents the CDC from wasting \$400,000 on these programs and supplies in 2008.

Considering the recent reports of Americans dying from infections due to a drug-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* or "superbug," Congress should not be wasting a single penny on frivolous CDC projects. All votes on S. Admt. 3320 and H.R. 3043 will be among those considered in CCAGW's *2007 Congressional Ratings*.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas Schatz". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.