

Send a brief email to your Senators and Representatives through their official contact forms:

1. Personalize the email template below by replacing **all of the yellow highlighted sections** with information about you and your laboratory(ies). Please adjust the letter to make it personal, appropriate to your situation, and explain the impact of the discontinuation of HRSA funding for uninsured individuals on your laboratory's ability to continue to provide testing services.
2. Please use your legislators associated with your **home** address, not the laboratory's address. You can find your House representative at this website: <https://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative> You can find your Senators at this website: <https://www.senate.gov/senators/senators-contact.htm>
3. Emails will be forwarded to your representatives and Senators through their main websites. Each Member of Congress maintains a Federal government website that includes a form to accept emails. To find your representative's website:
 - a. Once you have found your House representative and Senators through the links above, click his or her name to be directed to the office's webpage;
 - b. On the main landing page, look for a "Contact" tab or button;
 - c. Some members' websites will ask what type of request you are making. If it asks you, select "Comment on Legislation;"
 - d. Fill out the form with **your personal information and home address** (NOT the laboratory's address);
 - e. Many forms will request a "topic:" select "Health;"
 - f. Copy and paste your personalized and customized email into the space provided;
 - g. Click "send."
4. Email NILA at nila@nila-usa.org to share that you reached out to your representatives and Senators. Please be sure to include the name of your members of Congress in the communication. If you receive a response, please forward it to nila@nila-usa.org.

Brief Sample Email that you can send on your own through your Senators' and Representative's website:

Dear **[Representative Name]**:

I am a constituent and **[your role]** at **[name of your laboratory]**.

I am writing to ask Congress to urgently pass supplemental COVID-19 funding that includes additional resources for the Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA) Uninsured Program, which provides coverage of COVID-19 testing for uninsured populations. Without additional federal funds, community and independent laboratories working across the country will soon be unable to provide COVID-19 testing to vulnerable populations, including the uninsured.

Describe how your laboratory began to offer COVID-19 testing, including making investments to accommodate it.

The HRSA Uninsured Program will stop accepting claims for COVID-19 testing and treatment on March 22nd due to lack of sufficient funds. This will widen existing health care disparities in underserved communities and threaten the stability of our nation's COVID-19 testing capacity.

Now is not the time to restrict our COVID-19 testing capacity. Two years after the onset of COVID-19 we continue to see new variants emerge and consistent cases nationwide. Our laboratory infrastructure has been invaluable in providing the testing necessary to track cases and ensure patients take the appropriate steps to mitigate the spread of the virus.

Please move expeditiously to advance COVID-19 supplemental funding that will sustain HRSA's Uninsured Program and ensure that individuals across the country continue to have access to affordable COVID-19 testing at independent laboratories in their communities.

Thank you for your consideration of this critical matter.

[your signature]