



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service

Centers for Disease Control
and Prevention (CDC)
Atlanta GA 30333

SEP 20 2005

Patrick J. McConnon, M.P.H.
Executive Director
Council of State and Territorial
Epidemiologists
2872 Woodcock Boulevard, Suite 303
Atlanta, Georgia 30341-4015

RECEIVED SEP 22 2005

Dear Mr. McConnon:

Thank you for your letter expressing the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists' (CSTE) interest in having the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) provide increased funding for alcohol epidemiology activities in states.

CDC shares CSTE's concern about the public health impact of excessive alcohol consumption, and is committed to improving the science base for the prevention of excessive alcohol consumption in the United States.

As you know, CDC's Alcohol Team has been working closely with CSTE and state health departments on a number of issues related to excessive alcohol consumption and related harms. Over the next year, we look forward to continuing to work with CSTE on building state capacity in alcohol epidemiology. We see this activity as entirely consistent with our overarching goal of health promotion, and the prevention of disease, injury, and disability, as well as our strategic focus on public health research. Regarding CSTE's request for increased funding, the congressional appropriations process for fiscal year 2006 is still underway and CDC will continue to monitor the process closely and identify critical program gaps that may result.

We appreciate the support and interest of CSTE in this important public health issue and hope this information is helpful.

Sincerely,