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## **ADAP Advocacy Association Praises Bipartisan Congressional Funding for AIDS Drug Assistance Programs in Final Fiscal-Year 2011 Budget; Additional \$48 Million will Alleviate Growing ADAP Waiting Lists**

*Despite Cantankerous Debate on other Issues, Bipartisan Support Remains for ADAP*

For Immediate Release

WASHINGTON, D.C. (April 15, 2011) – The [ADAP Advocacy Association](http://www.adapadvocacyassociation.org), also known as **aaa+**, today praised the bipartisan Congressional support for the additional \$48 million included in the final Fiscal-Year (“FY”) 2011 budget for the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (“ADAP”). The budget provides \$885 million for ADAP, which is \$25 million more than was obligated in FY10, after the President’s mid-year emergency \$25 million transfer to address waiting lists. The bill provides \$8 million more than the original budget introduced in the House of Representatives (H.R.1).

“Yesterday’s bipartisan vote in the U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate was a grassroots victory for every American living with HIV/AIDS who has been fighting for timely access to care and treatment since the current ADAP crisis started,” said **Brandon M. Macsata**, CEO of the ADAP Advocacy Association. “Despite their partisan differences on many issues, ADAP’s unquestionable Return on Investment for the taxpayer demonstrated that bipartisanship still exists in Washington. The additional \$48 million included in the budget will help to alleviate the growing ADAP waiting lists across the country. But more work needs to be done!”

ADAPs provide life-saving medications to people living with HIV/AIDS nationwide who are uninsured or under-insured. This vital federal-state program has faced a budget shortfall for the last several years, resulting in waiting lists. As of April 8, 2011, there 7,900 people living with HIV/AIDS on ADAP waiting lists – including Arkansas (51 people), Florida (3,967 people), Georgia (1,328 people), Idaho (10 people), Louisiana (861 people), Montana (22 people), North Carolina (138 people), Ohio (326 people), South Carolina (597 people), Virginia (597 people) and Wyoming (3 people) – with 20 ADAPs, including eleven with current waiting lists, reported they are considering implementing new or additional cost-containment measures by the end of ADAP’s current fiscal year (March 31, 2011).<sup>1</sup>

To learn more about the Fiscal-Year 2011 ADAP Appropriations, ADAP waiting lists or the ADAP Advocacy Association, please contact Brandon M. Macsata by phone at (305) 519-4256 or email at [info@adapadvocacyassociation.org](mailto:info@adapadvocacyassociation.org).

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<sup>1</sup> National Alliance of State & Territorial AIDS Directors (NASTAD), The ADAP Watch, April 8, 2011.