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Letter: Congress must stop Trump's cuts to lifesaving programs

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Congresswoman Barbara Lee speaks during a rally at the Lake Merritt Amphitheater before taking to the streets for the Women's March in Oakland, Calif., on Saturday, Jan. 19, 2019. (Anda Chu/Bay Area News Group)

By **LETTERS TO THE EDITOR** | Bay Area News Group

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Congress must stop Trump's cuts to lifesaving programs

I thank reader Elizabeth Whitford for her East Bay Times letter on TB, "[With globalization, TB poses dangerous threat to California](#)" (April 16).

She might be delighted to learn that Rep. Barbara Lee has been a champion of the Global Fund to Fight HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria since its beginning in 2002.

Millions of lives have been saved because of the U.S. leadership in funding this program. As the reader noted, momentum to treat and cure these diseases, and others including measles, must be maintained.

For the first time, treatment for malaria, which kills 1 million people a year, is stagnating due to lack of increased funding.

Congress can stop President Trump's proposed 25 percent cuts in programs that save lives, only if they hear from constituents. Appropriation deadlines in the Senate are coming up soon. Please put pressure on our senators to support global health and education foreign aid programs that save lives.

— Susan Oehser, Oakland