

# NEWS

FROM THE GRANT DOCTORS® LLC

## EXPIRED GRANTS COULD AID ZIKA RESEARCH

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**LAS VEGAS, NEVADA. Thursday, August 18, 2016**—Funding to combat the Zika virus might already exist and it's hiding in plain sight in the form of expired federal grants.

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has approximately **\$651 million** in expired grant accounts as of September 30, 2015 according to the Government Accountability Office<sup>1</sup>. A significant portion of these funds could be eligible for Zika research.

Expired grants are those beyond a project's end date but not yet officially closed by the federal government due to delays by either the grantee or the awarding agency. Until grant accounts are closed, the unspent funds remain locked in HHS' grants management system, unavailable for other projects.

Every federal grant has its own unique purpose and some of the expired funds might not qualify for Zika activities, but if there are enough expired research-oriented grants, it's possible those funds could be redirected to Zika efforts through administrative action by HHS Secretary Sylvia Burwell or President Obama.

"It's a long shot but it's worth exploring," says Dave Farley, CEO of The Grant Doctors, "If Secretary Burwell can expedite the closure of these expired grants, it might be a good source of funds—already intended for research—that won't require Congressional action and won't pull resources from existing health initiatives."

# # #

### **About The Grant Doctors® LLC**

The Grant Doctors® is a full service federal grants consulting and governmental relations firm for urban and rural local educational agencies, municipalities, nonprofit corporations and healthcare providers. Our professionals have secured over \$199 million and managed \$350 million in federal grants. For more information, please visit: [www.thegrantdoctors.com](http://www.thegrantdoctors.com).

### **PRESS CONTACT**

**Dave Farley, CEO**  
[hello@thegrantdoctors.com](mailto:hello@thegrantdoctors.com)  
213-595-0935

<sup>1</sup> *Grants Management: Actions Needed to Address Persistent Grant Closeout Timeliness and Undisbursed Balance Issues*, GAO-16-362, April 14, 2016.