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Describe in detail the current creative work, distinguished achievements, or distinguished service which make this nominee worthy of the award.

A "health equity" upstreamist and transformational leader whose passion, compassion, and commitment to advance community health is uncompromised and unparalleled, raising the standard for others to follow and emulate. Trusted for his integrity, intelligence, and inspirational and innovative excellence. To us, that's what the APHA Award for Excellence personifies, and that is why we are co-nominating John Michael Auerbach, MBA, for the 2017 APHA Award for Excellence.

John brings more than 35 years of experience as a leader in the public health field. Not only did John serve as the Executive Director of the Boston Public Health Commission, Commissioner of the Massachusetts Department of Health, Distinguished Professor of Practice and Director of the Institute on Urban Health Research and Practice at Northeastern University, Associate Director for Policy and Acting Director of the Office for State, Tribal, Local and Territorial Support at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, he is now, the President and CEO of the Trust for America's Health (TFAH), yet another critical role for our country. Gail Christopher, TFAH Board Chair, and VP for Policy and Senior Advisor at the WK Kellogg Foundation calls John a "true innovator in public health … whose work embodies a transformative approach to improving health."

Committed to improving community health, no matter where John served, he led. As Chief of Staff and later Assistant Commissioner of the HIV/AIDS Bureau during the early years of the epidemic, John was a founding member and second President of the National Association of State and Territorial AIDS Directors (NASTAD). As the Executive Director of the Boston Public Health Commission, John served as a member of the Board of Directors of the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO). As Commissioner of Public Health for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, John developed the Mass in Motion campaign, and served as President of the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) where he made "Health Equity" his signature presidential initiative. He also served as a member of the APHA Public Health Systems Transformation Advisory Committee, a Board Member of Health Care for All and a Board Member of the Massachusetts Public Health Association. At the CDC, he served as a member of the CDC's Advisory Committee to the Director workgroup on State, Tribal, Local and Territorial Health, the National Quality Forum's Health and Well-Being Standing Committee and the Board of Directors of the deBeaumont Foundation.

John is the recipient of multiple awards, including the National Association of State and Territorial AIDS Directors Lifetime Achievement Award, Massachusetts Health Council Lifetime Achievement Award, ASTHO McCormack Award for demonstrated excellence as a State Health Commissioner, and an award that Health Care for All named in John's honor: the John Auerbach Community Leader Award.

One of us, Dr. Howard Koh, has spent many years working closely with John in government in our state and national capacities and can say that John is one of the most selfless, tireless, considerate and unifying leaders in our country. One of us, Elena Ong, has also worked side by side with John on countless APHA invited sessions and can say that John is one of the most gracious, humble, inclusive, trusted, and social justice and prevention-oriented public health visionaries in our nation.

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"John is a unique combination of someone who is both kind and thoughtful as well as amazingly effective…gentle, respectful, thoughtful and caring, but make no mistake, in the defense of public health, public health workers, public health programs, and health improvement, John is as tough as nails." (Thomas Frieden, past CDC Director).

"John is a person of integrity, vision, energy and creativity …. a leader, visionary, effective, strategic, collaborative and imaginative, and *humble*... he does not put himself at the center, (and) because of that he is deeply trusted and has been able to create the kinds of diverse coalitions and critical consensus that move agendas (Jean McGuire, Northeastern University).

"No job is beneath him." (Monica Valdes Lupi, Boston Public Health Commission).

"His insightful, authentic, and attentive communication style, combined with his deep public health expertise, shows people that their issues are important, and that he cares about them as individuals." (Jewel Mullen, US DHHS).

"John has always kept the poorest and most vulnerable citizens in mind" (Alice Bonner, Northeastern University).

"A champion for prevention, public health, health equity and health for all, he continually raises the bar for others to emulate." (Gabriel Garcia, Asian & Pacific Islander Caucus for Public Health).

"Mr. Auerbach is fulfilling our vision of transforming the United States into the healthiest nation in one generation by making disease prevention and health equity a top priority … His ability to lead with creativity, compassion, trustworthiness, and innovation, solving public health crises, makes him the ideal candidate for this award." (Apryl Brown, Black Caucus of Health Workers).

"John's vision gives other's insights, not just in problem-solving, but in scaling up ideas for far greater impact in public health." (Laura Hardman, Emory Trustee).

"Time and again, John has demonstrated his ability to translate visionary ideas into cutting edge action and public health programs." (Paul Halverson, Academic Public Health Caucus).

"He is generous with his time and ideas." (Edward Hunter, deBeaumont Foundation).

"…Essentially everyone (he) comes in close contact with recognizes (him) as a leader they want to work with. (James Marks, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation).

"People want to be on John's team." (Angela Menino, former First Lady of Boston).

"They have an intense loyalty to John as he does to them." (Laura Hardman, Emory Trustee).

"John Auerbach is committed to the health of each and every member of this nation, and has an incredible track record to prove it." (Jessica Collins, Massachusetts Public Health Association).

"John Auerbach has truly earned his status as a trusted leader in public health" (Jonathan Fielding, UCLA Fielding School of Public Health).

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More than 30 public health leaders – including three Sedgwick Memorial Medal Awardees – Howard Koh, MD, MPH, Hortensia Amaro, PhD, MA, & Jonathan Fielding, MD, MPH – have come together support John's nomination for the 2017 APHA Award for Excellence. We truly hope the APHA Awards Committee will bestow this Award for Excellence to John for his passion, compassion, integrity, intelligence and excellence in innovation and equity.

For all John has accomplished, and continues to accomplish, we can think of no leader more deserving of the prestigious 2017 APHA Award for Excellence:

1. Howard Koh, MD, MPH, 2014 Sedgwick Awardee, Harvard School of Public Health
2. Elena Ong, PHN, MS, APHA Executive Board Member
3. Hortensia Amaro, PhD, MA, 2015 Sedgwick Awardee, USC Dworak_Peck School of Social Work
4. Jonathan Fielding, MD, MPH, 2006 Sedgwick Awardee, UCLA Fielding School of Public Health_
5. Massachusetts Public Health Association – Jessica Collins, President
6. Academic Public Health Caucus – Paul Halverson, DrPH, MHSA, FACHE, IU Richard Fairbanks SPH
7. Asian & Pacific Islander Caucus for Public Health – Gabriel Garcia, PhD, MA, MPH
8. Black Caucus of Health Workers – Apryl Brown, MD
9. LGBT Caucus of Public Health Professionals – Christina Dragon
10. Men's Health Caucus – Ana Fadich, MPH, CHES
11. Women's Caucus – Sarah Gareau, DrPH
12. APHA Aging & Public Health Section – Caryn Etkin, PhD, MPH
13. APHA Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs Section – Linda Frazier, MA, RN, MCHES
14. APHA Community Health Planning & Policy Development Section – Ashley Wennerstrom, PhD, MPH
15. APHA Epidemiology Section - E. Oscar Alleyne, DrPH, MPH
16. APHA Maternal & Child Health Section – Deborah Allen, ScD
17. APHA Medical Care Section - James Wohlleb
18. APHA Public Health Education & Health Promotion Section – Heather Brandt, PhD, CHES
19. APHA Public Health Nursing Section – Alexandra Garcia, PHD, RN, APHN-BC, FAAN
20. Jewel Mullen, MD, MPH, MPA, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Health, US DHHS
21. Thomas Frieden, MD, MPH, Past Director, Centers for Disease Control & Prevention
22. Judith Monroe, MD, FAAFP, CDC Foundation
23. Angela Menino, Former First Lady of Boston
24. Laura Jones Hardman, Emory Trustee & John Hardman, MD, Past Executive Director, Carter Center
25. Alice Bonner, PhD, RN, FAAN, Northeastern University, Bouve College of Health Sciences
26. Jean Flatley McGuire, MSPH, PhD, Northeastern
27. Carmen Sceppa, MD, PhD, Professor & Chair of Health Sciences, Northeastern University
28. Edward Hunter, President & CEO, deBeaumont Foundation
29. James Marks, MD, MPH, Executive Vice President, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
30. Karen Remley, MD, MBA, MPH, FAAP, CEO, American Academy of Pediatrics
31. Monica Valdes Lupi, JD, MPH, Executive Director, Boston Public Health Commission

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List positions (titles and dates) held during performance of work for which nomination is suggested:

January, 2017 –

President and CEO
Trust for America's Health
Washington, D.C.

- Leadership of non-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to protecting the health of every community and working to make disease prevention a national priority
- Oversight of multiple activities including research and educational materials development including annual publication of select topic reports, policy development and promotion, media and communications, government and non-profit relations

October, 2014 – January, 2017

Associate Director of CDC
Director of Policy
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
Atlanta, Georgia

- Director of policy in the Office of the Director of the CDC
- Oversight of CDC relations and policy development with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid, the Office of the Surgeon General and multiple federal agencies
- Responsible for guiding the public health and prevention components of federal health system transformation initiatives

February, 2016 – December, 2016

Acting Deputy Director of CDC
Acting Director, Office for State, Tribal, Local, & Territorial Support
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
Atlanta, Georgia

- Oversight of key activities and technical assistance that support the nation's health departments and the public health system
- Responsible for agency-wide initiative to align the work of health care and public health sectors in collaboration with national partners and health officials at all levels of government

2012 – January, 2017 (on academic leave during CDC tenure)

Distinguished Professor of Practice, Bouvé College of Health Sciences
Director, Institute on Urban Health Research
Northeastern University

- Director of an Institute with numerous research grants from federal agencies, foundations and health departments. The Institute has multi-disciplinary faculty and staff and both masters and Ph.D.-level students. Its focus is on understanding the social and environmental conditions of urban living in order to inform public health intervention strategies, policies and professional training
- Responsible for bringing $5 million in new grants into the University during a 2 year period

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2007- 2012

***Commissioner*, Massachusetts Department of Public Health**

- Senior health policy adviser to the Governor and the Secretary of Health and Human Services
- Manager of an organization of 3,000 employees and a budget of $800 million including 4 public health hospitals, the Hinton Laboratory and 100 programmatic areas

1998-2007

***Executive Director*, Boston Public Health Commission, City of Boston.**

- Public Health Commissioner for largest city in New England with a budget of $130 million and 1,200 employees.
- First permanent director of major city agency launched in 1996 as part of re-organization of the Boston Health and Hospitals Department. Initial tasks included establishment of new organizational mission, structure, and division of labor.
- Member of Mayor's Cabinet.

1990-1998

***Assistant Commissioner/Director of the HIV/AIDS Bureau*, Department of Public Health, Commonwealth of Massachusetts.**

- Established State's first multi-faceted governmental response to the AIDS epidemic. Oversaw development of State's HIV policy, planning, program implementation, and monitoring. Co-founded national organization of state AIDS directors to increase federal influence.

1987-1990

***Chief of Staff*, Department of Public Health, Commonwealth of Massachusetts (for Commissioner Deborah Prothrow-Stith, MD).**

- Oversaw policy, program, and administration of a wide range of public health issues in a $300 million Department with 4,000 employees.

1986-1987

***Senior Planner*, Department of Health and Hospitals for the City of Boston.**

- Planned and implemented managed care services for Boston City Hospital, two chronic hospitals, and numerous community health centers.

1979-1985

***Administrator*, Uphams Corner Community Health Center.**

- Managed the largest Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program in the State. Coordinated nutrition and food supplementation services at six community health centers in Dorchester and South Boston.

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List publications relevant to achievements on which nomination is based:

Op-Eds:

Auerbach, John. Prevention efforts can ward off many chronic and expensive conditions. So why aren't we investing in them? STAT News, April 19, 2017.

Auerbach, John. Huffington Post: The Hidden Provision in The Affordable Care Act That, If Lost, Will Quickly Lead To Poorer Health. Huffington Post, March 21, 2017.

Auerbach, John. Vaccine programs are threatened by exemptions, ACA repeal. STAT News, Februrary 17, 2017.

Auerbach, John. Missing in the ACA debate: Funding to prevent disease in the first place. The Hill, February 13, 2017.

Publications:

Auerbach, John, Lloyd Michener and David Sundwall. "How to Get a Seat at the Table - Strategies for Incorporating Public Health in States' Healthcare Planning Activities." ASTHO, May 2017.

Foti, Kathryn, John Auerbach and Sanne Magnan. "Improving Hypertension Control Population-wide in Minnesota," *Journal of Public Health Management and Practice*, July 2017 (publication pending).

O'Carroll, Patrick, Karen DeSalvo, Denise Koo, John Auerbach and Judith Monroe. "Public Health 3.0: Time for an Upgrade" in Solving Population Health Problems through Collaboration. Ron Bialek, Leslie Beitch and John Moron, Editors. New York, NY: Routledge, 2017.

Duncan, Heather and John Auerbach. "CDC's Public Health Associate Program: Serving the Field Today While Creating the Workforce of Tomorrow," *Journal of Public Health Management & Practice*, Post Author Corrections: February 08, 2017.

Auerbach, John and James Marks. "Foreword" in Chronic Disease Epidemiology, Prevention, and Control, 4th edition, Patrick L. Remington, Ross C. Brownson, and Mark V. Wegner, American Public Health Association, 2016.

Auerbach, John. "The 3 Buckets of Prevention." *Journal of Public Health Management & Practice*. 22(3):215-218, May/June 2016.

DeSalvo, Karen, Patrick O'Carroll, Denise Koo, John Auerbach and Judith Monroe. "Public Health 3.0: Time for an Upgrade," *American Journal of Public Health*: April 2016, Vol. 106, No. 4, pp. 621-622.

Hester, Jim, John Auerbach, Debbie Chang, Sanne Magnan, and Judith Monroe. "Opportunity Knocks Again for Population Health: Round Two in State Innovation Models," *Institute of Medicine Population Roundtable* on-line article, April 13, 2016.

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Auerbach, John. "Creating Incentives to Move Upstream: Developing a Diversified Portfolio of Population Health Measures Within Payment and Health Care Reform," *American Journal of Public Health* 105(3):e1-e5, January 2015.

Auerbach, John, co-author. "The High Achieving Governmental Health Department in 2020 as the Community Chief Health Strategist," *RESOLVE*, Public Health Leadership Forum, May 2014.

Auerbach, John, "Lessons from the Front Line: The Massachusetts Experience of the Role of Public Health in Health Care Reform." *Journal of Public Health Management & Practice*: September/October 2013 - Volume 19 - Issue 5 - p 488–491.

Auerbach, John, Jim Hester, Debbie Chang and Sanne Magnan. "Opportunity Knocks: Population Health in State Innovation Models," *Institute of Medicine Population Roundtable* on-line article, August 21, 2013.

Nick, GA[1], E Savoia, L Elqura, MS Crowther, B Cohen, T Wright, J Auerbach and HK Koh. "Emergency preparedness for vulnerable populations: people with special health-care needs," *Public Health Rep.* 2009 Mar-Apr;124(2):338-43.

Auerbach, John. "Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Public Health: Progress and Challenges," *American Journal of Public Health*, 98(6) · June 2008, DOI: 10.2105/AJPH.2008.139972.

List awards and other recognition received by the nominee:

AWARDS (Partial Listing)

National Association of State and Territorial AIDS Directors – Lifetime Achievement Award - 2013

Creation of *John Auerbach Community Leader Award* by Health Care for All - 2013

Massachusetts Health Council Lifetime Achievement Award - 2012

ASTHO McCormack Award for demonstrated excellence as a state health commissioner - 2012

Heroes in Action Award, AIDS Action Committee of Massachusetts - 2012

Harvard Pilgrim Foundation Distinguished Leadership Award - 2010

Massachusetts Public Health Association Revere Public Health Leadership Award - 2009

Social Justice Award, Harvard Medical School, Office for Diversity & Community Partnership - 2008

"John Auerbach Circle", a street named for him on the Mattapan mixed use campus - 2007

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BOARD LEADERSHIP AND PARTICIPATION (Partial Listing)

Member, National Academies Forum on Aging, Disabilities and Independence, National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine, 2017-

Member, Population Health Roundtable, National Academy of Medicine, 2014-

Board Member, deBeaumont Foundation, 2013-

Board Member, Health Care for All, 2013-2015

Member, Leadership Committee, Kraft Center, Partners Health Care, 2012-2015

Member, CDC State, Territorial, Local and Tribal Advisory Group, 2010-2015

Board Member, Massachusetts Public Health Association – 1999-2007, 2013-2015
Board Chair, 2005-2006

Member, APHA Public Health Systems Transformation Advisory Committee, 2012-2014

Member, Board of Directors, Association of State &Territorial Health Officers (ASTHO), 2008-2012
Member of Board of Directors, 2008-2012, President, 2010-2011

Board Member, National Association of County and City Health Officers (NACCHO), 2004-2007

Founding Member, National Association of State and Territorial AIDS Directors, 1992-1998
Board Chair, 1993-1994