

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

November 21, 2025

The Honorable Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.
Secretary
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Secretary Kennedy,

We write to you regarding the alarming removal of scientific information refuting the link between vaccines and autism spectrum disorders (autism) from the Vaccine Safety page of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) website on November 19.¹ The installation of false claims, without CDC expert career staff knowledge according to reporting, regarding a false connection between autism and vaccines is a direct threat to our nation's public health. Before your agency's anti-vaccine propaganda appeared on the CDC's Vaccine Safety webpage, the CDC webpage stated that studies have shown that there is "no link" between vaccines and developing autism and that "no links" have been found between any vaccine ingredients and the disorder, according to archived webpages.²

A robust review of scientific literature, from studies all around the world, show no correlation between autism and childhood vaccines.^{3,4,5,6,7,8,9} The percentage of children with autism spectrum disorders is the same in vaccinated and non-vaccinated populations. Physicians, public health experts, and autism advocates are united in condemning this harmful myth and stopping the spread of misinformation. Vaccines are rigorously tested and monitored for safety, and there is robust scientific evidence showing that they save millions of lives each year - especially the lives of children. For a Health and Human Services Secretary who constantly talks about radical transparency, you have obscured real, evidence-based science and replaced it with conspiracy theories. You have discredited sound science vetted by scientists across the globe, undermined confidence in the CDC, and endangered Americans' health.

Americans deserve robust evidence-based recommendations, especially when it comes to their health. As the Secretary of Health and Human Services, you continue to espouse harmful anti-vaccine rhetoric from our national public health agency which sows doubt and fear in the American public that will ultimately cost lives. Your politicization of vaccines has made American families less safe, returns the U.S. to an era before mass vaccination prevented millions of infections, and will result in tragic deaths, particularly among children.

¹ <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccine-safety/about/autism.html>

² <https://www.restoredcdc.org/www.cdc.gov/vaccine-safety/about/autism.html>

³ Autism Occurrence by MMR Vaccine Status Among US Children With Older Siblings With and Without Autism
<https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/fullarticle/2275444>

⁴ Vaccines are not associated with autism: An evidence-based meta-analysis of case-control and cohort studies
<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/24814559/>

⁵ Increasing Exposure to Antibody-Stimulating Proteins and Polysaccharides in Vaccines Is Not Associated with Risk of Autism
[https://www.jpeds.com/article/S0022-3476\(13\)00144-3/fulltext](https://www.jpeds.com/article/S0022-3476(13)00144-3/fulltext)

⁶ The MMR Vaccine and Autism <https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC6768751/>

⁷ Immunization Safety Review: Vaccines and Autism <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK25349/#a2000af8fddd00068>

⁸ Association Between Thimerosal-Containing Vaccine and Autism <https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/fullarticle/197365>

⁹ A Population-Based Study of Measles, Mumps, and Rubella Vaccination and Autism <https://nejm.org/doi/10.1056/NEJMoa021134>

We demand that you correct CDC's website by removing vaccine misinformation and restore America's trust in our national public health agency.

Sincerely,



Kim Schrier, M.D.
Member of Congress



Ami Bera, M.D.
Member of Congress



Herbert C. Conaway, Jr.
Member of Congress



Maxine Dexter
Member of Congress



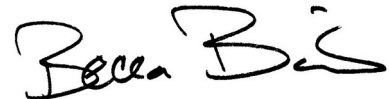
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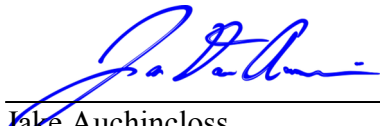
Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez
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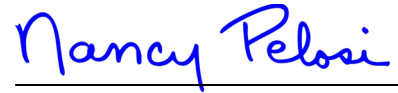
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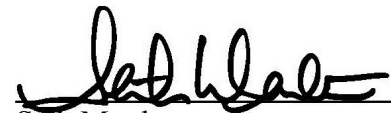
Madeleine Dean
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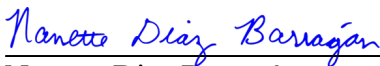
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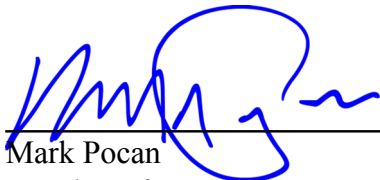
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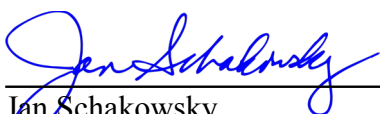
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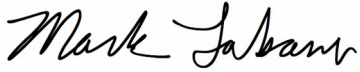
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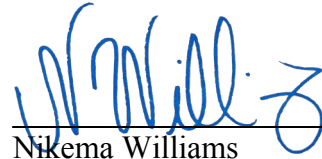
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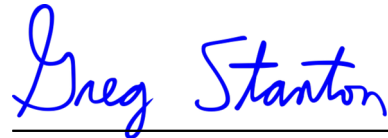
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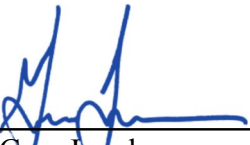
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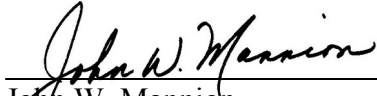
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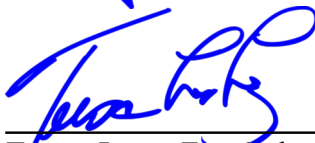
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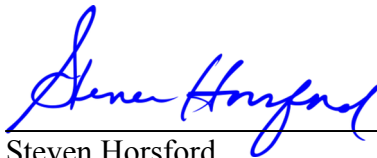
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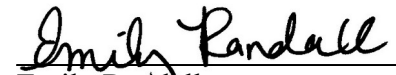
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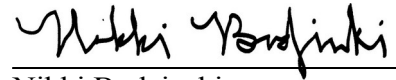
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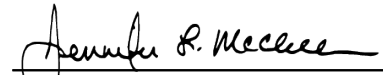
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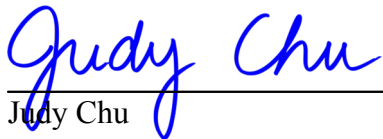
Jennifer L. McClellan
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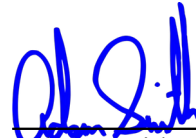
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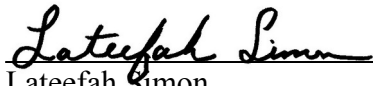
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Gwen S. Moore
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