

November 26, 2025

The Honorable Bill Cassidy

Chair

Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

United States Senate

Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Bernie Sanders

Ranking Member

Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

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Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Cassidy and Ranking Member Sanders,

We, the undersigned organizations, are deeply concerned by recent federal public health communications that conflict with the scientific consensus that vaccines do not cause autism spectrum disorder, particularly when such information guides decisions affecting the health of families and communities.

On November 19, 2025, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website was updated to include a post suggesting a possible link between vaccines and autism. In the days since, leading U.S. scientific and medical institutions—as well as international bodies such as the European Medicines Agency—have reiterated the well-established evidence that there is no credible causal relationship between vaccines and autism. Despite this, the webpage remains publicly available.

The posting of information on a federal public health website that contradicts established, evidence-based scientific consensus is alarming. At a moment when vaccine-preventable diseases including measles are resurging and the U.S. is entering what may be a severe respiratory season, with public confidence already fragile, statements like this will have real and harmful consequences for public health.

This moment highlights the importance of clear, accurate, and evidence-based public communications from federal health agencies. Strong internal scientific review processes are critical to maintaining public trust—especially for parents and caregivers making decisions about their children's health. CDC's public guidance, including website content, should be informed and led by professionals with relevant scientific and medical expertise.

For decades, CDC has served as the nation's leading source of public health guidance, supported by dedicated career scientists and public health professionals whose work has been essential to the health of families and communities. **With respect for CDC's long-**

**standing mission, we urge that this webpage be updated to accurately reflect the current scientific consensus that there is no causal relationship between vaccines and autism.**

**We also ask the U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP), in its oversight role, to ensure CDC and other federal science agencies uphold their critically important evidence-based communication practices.**

We remain committed to supporting CDC in its mission to ensure that federal public health guidance remains clear and grounded in science. We appreciate Senator Cassidy's ongoing support of the importance of vaccination, and we thank the full Committee and staff for your leadership and service.

Sincerely,

Alliance for Aging Research  
American Academy of Neurology  
American Association of Immunologists  
American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists  
American College of Nurse-Midwives  
American College of Preventive Medicine  
American Families for Vaccines  
American Geriatrics Society  
American Institute of Biological Sciences  
American Lung Association  
American Pharmacists Association  
American Society for Microbiology  
American Society Meningitis Prevention  
American Society of Health-System Pharmacists  
American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene  
Arkansas Immunization Action Coalition (Immunize Arkansas)  
American Society for Clinical Pharmacology & Therapeutics (ASCPT)  
Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC)  
Big Cities Health Coalition  
California Immunization Coalition  
ColoVAX  
Families Fighting Flu  
Gerontological Society of America  
Harris County Public Health  
Idaho Immunization Coalition  
Illinois Public Health Association  
Immunization Coalition of Delaware  
Immunize Colorado

Immunize Kansas Coalition  
Immunize Oregon  
Infectious Diseases Society of America  
Langlade Co Immunization Coalition  
Louisiana Families for Vaccines  
Mississippi Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics  
Mississippi Immunization Coalition  
Montana Families for Vaccines  
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners  
National Foundation for Infectious Diseases  
National Viral Hepatitis Roundtable (NVHR)  
Nurses Who Vaccinate  
Oklahoma Alliance for Healthy Families  
Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society  
Pennsylvania Immunization Coalition  
Population Association of America  
Research!America  
Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America (SHEA)  
Society of Infectious Diseases Pharmacists (SIDP)  
South Dakota Families for Vaccines  
Tennessee Families for Vaccines  
The Arizona Partnership for Immunization  
The Immunization Partnership  
The JAMIE Group  
The Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD)  
The Task Force for Global Health  
Trust for America's Health  
Vaccinate Your Family  
Vaccine Ambassadors  
Vaccine Education Center at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia  
Voices for Vaccines