



## **Open Letter of Support for HHS Secretary Kennedy**

The addition of Robert Kennedy Jr. and the Make America Healthy Again (MAHA) movement to the 2024 Trump campaign resonated with the American people. Kennedy drew the public's attention to the epidemic of chronic health conditions, with 30% of U.S. youth aged 5-25 living with at least one chronic health condition attributable at least in part to unhealthy diet and chemical additives to our food.

Secretary Kennedy also drew attention to the power that giant pharmaceutical companies have over national health policy and offered a more balanced approach of lifestyle and other interventions to reduce dependence on medication when more natural remedies are available. In medical and pharmaceutical research, he called for increased transparency of process, absence of vested interests, and open debate in considering scientific data. He made the case to the American people that "The science is settled" is incompatible with the scientific process and that open debate and consideration of new data are essential to sound policy making.

His emphasis on steps such as returning to healthier foods, getting rid of harmful additives, eliminating conflict of interest in medical research, and other common-sense actions made sense to a wide coalition of voters concerned about increasing obesity and other health-related problems that had become too evident to be ignored.

Secretary Kennedy's decisive, determined leadership has set a common-sense course direction for HHS that can and should benefit generations to come and reduce the human and financial burden of preventable chronic disease. Just a few of the most important MAHA focus areas have included:

- Nutrition and Ultra-processed foods
- Environmental toxins and chemical exposures
- Physical activity and lifestyle
- Overmedicalization and prescription drug use
- Mental Health and Psychological factors
- Transparency and integrity in scientific research

- Food Safety and School Nutrition
- Informed Consent for recommended biologics including vaccines

Following the reforms at HHS, dozens of states have enacted MAHA-related policies and legislation impacting schools, families, and the public at large.

We believe the leadership and energy Secretary Kennedy brings to this position is necessary to provide consistency, continuity, and the courage that will be required to maintain this healthy momentum for America.

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