

June 13, 2025

The Honorable Frank Pallone
U.S. House of Representatives
2107 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kim Schrier
U.S. House of Representatives
1123 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Pallone and Schrier:

We, the undersigned medical, public health, scientific and patient organizations, write to offer our strong support for the *Family Vaccine Protection Act*. The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) was established under section 222 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. §217a) and has been conducting regular meetings since 1964. The committee serves a critical role in reviewing the science to keep Americans healthy and providing guidance as the country faces new, emerging threats from infectious diseases.

Unfortunately, Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services, has decided to retire all current members of ACIP and replace them with new members. This unprecedented action unfairly impugns the motives and integrity of current ACIP members and undermines the independent nature of this advisory committee.

The ACIP is a federal advisory committee made up of independent medical and public health experts that develops recommendations on the use of vaccines in the civilian population of the United States. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) sets the U.S. adult and childhood immunization schedules based on recommendations from the ACIP, which considers many factors, including the burden of illness and the safety and effectiveness of the vaccine, before they make their recommendations.

These recommendations then trigger no-cost coverage requirements for many insurers, resulting in increased access to vaccines without cost sharing for millions of Americans, including people covered by Medicare, Medicaid, TRICARE, and most private health insurance plans. Additionally, ACIP-recommended vaccines are available without cost-sharing to eligible children through the Vaccines for Children program, which provides federally purchased vaccines to approximately 52% of all children in the United States.ⁱ

Your bill seeks to place the current ACIP charter into statute to protect the full scope of the Committee's role, recommendations, frequency of meetings, and membership. It also seeks to codify the current vaccines that are not statutorily required but are in the regulations that make the ACIP recommendations. We thank you for your leadership in authoring this important legislation and we look forward to working with you in support of the enactment of this legislation.

Sincerely,

Academy of Oncology Nurse & Patient Navigators
Alliance for Aging Research

American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology
American Academy of Family Physicians
American Academy of Pediatrics
American Behcet's Disease Association
American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
American College of Physicians
American Pharmacists Association
American Society for Meningitis Prevention
AMR.Solutions
Arizona Families for Vaccines
Arthritis Foundation
Association of Departments of Family Medicine
Autoimmune Association
California Chronic Care Coalition
California Immunization Coalition
CancerCare
Caregiver Action Network
Chronic Care Policy Alliance
Colorado Families for Vaccines
First Focus Campaign for Children
Gerontological Society of America
Hematology/Oncology Pharmacy Association
Idaho Immunization Coalition
Immunize.org
Infectious Diseases Society of America
Infusion Access Foundation
Kids Can't Wait
Kimberly Coffey Foundation
Louisiana Families for Vaccines
Maine Families for Vaccines
March of Dimes
Massachusetts Families for Vaccines
Montana Families for Vaccines
National Alliance of State Pharmacy Associations
National Alliance to Advance Adolescent Health
National Association of Nutrition and Aging Services Programs
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
National Association of School Nurses
National Council of Asian Pacific Islander Physicians
National Foundation for Infectious Diseases
National Health Law Program
National Hispanic Council on Aging
National Hispanic Health Foundation

Nevada Chronic Care Collaborative
NH Families for Vaccines
North American Primary Care Research Group
NTM Info & Research, Inc.
Oregon Families for Vaccines
Partnership to Fight Infectious Disease
Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society
Peggy Lillis Foundation
Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medical Association
Primary Care Development Corporation
SAFE Communities Coalition
Society of Teachers of Family Medicine
South Dakota Families for Vaccines
Tennessee Families for Vaccines
Vaccinate Your Family

ⁱ Valier MR, Yankey D, Elam-Evans LD, et al. “Vital Signs: Trends and Disparities in Childhood Vaccination Coverage by Vaccines for Children Program Eligibility — National Immunization Survey-Child, United States, 2012–2022,” Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR), August 22, 2024;73:722-730. <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/73/wr/mm7333e1.htm>