

June 5, 2025

VIA EMAIL

The Honorable Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.
Secretary
The U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
Hubert H. Humphrey Building
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20201
rfk54@hhs.gov

Re: *Adding Balance to ACIP's Non-Voting Members*

Dear Secretary Kennedy:

We write on behalf of Informed Consent Action Network, ICAN, to respectfully request that you bring some much-needed balance to the constitution of the non-voting members of the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (**ACIP**). As Secretary, you have the authority to add non-voting members to ACIP.

ACIP's charter calls for "such other non-voting liaison representatives as the Secretary deems necessary."¹ The 15 voting members at ACIP are surrounded by a horseshoe of 36 advisory non-voting members, constituting 6 ex officio members and 30 liaison representatives from industry medical groups, including Pharmaceutical Research and Manufactures of America, PhRMA.² These non-voting members each have a focus on vaccine distribution and promotion that exceeds and often conflicts with any interest in safety.

The safety of products given to millions of children is critical and there should be at least a few non-voting members with a focus on vaccine safety without the conflicting interest of increasing vaccine distribution and promotion. To that end, we respectfully request that, pursuant to your authority to do so, you amend the ACIP Charter to add the following organizations as non-voting liaison representatives to ACIP:

- Association of American Physicians & Surgeons (AAPS)
- Children's Health Defense (CHD)
- Medical Academy of Pediatrics & Special Needs (MAPS)
- Informed Consent Action Network (ICAN)
- Physicians for Informed Consent (PIC)

¹ See ACIP Charter, available at <https://www.cdc.gov/acip/about/acip-charter.html>.

² <https://www.cdc.gov/acip/membership/index.html>.

The need for at least some balance at ACIP meetings regarding safety issues is critical, including as set forth in the formal written submission to the United States Senate by the undersigned available at: <https://www.hsgac.senate.gov/wp-content/uploads/Siri-Testimony.pdf>.

The foregoing is a critically needed first step toward bringing some balance to ACIP meetings. The American public deserves nothing less.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A. Siri', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Aaron Siri, Esq.

Elizabeth A. Brehm, Esq