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April 16, 2021

President Joseph R. Biden, Jr.
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Biden,

We represent the Informed Consent Action Network (“ICAN”) and write regarding your recently announced investment of \$3 billion “to support local efforts to ... increase vaccine access, acceptance, and uptake.”¹ This is on top of the \$1 billion recently passed by Congress in the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 “to strengthen vaccine confidence through education and information sharing.”²

ICAN respectfully suggests that if the goal of the administration is to reduce vaccine hesitancy, this \$4 billion would be much more effective if used to fix the broken vaccine safety surveillance system in this country and not to attempt to stifle voices, often those with vaccine injured children, that are seeking to increase the safety profile of the government’s childhood vaccine schedule. Vaccines can cause harm – that is undisputed. What is disputed is the rate at which they cause harm. Data on that is lacking because of the broken vaccine safety surveillance system. This is plain from a letter exchange regarding vaccine safety that ICAN had with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services available at https://www.icandecide.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/HHS-Letter-Exchange_complete.pdf.

Our client prays that you will reconsider the allocation of these funds and divert them from censoring speech and instead put them towards automating the Vaccine Adverse Events Reporting System and making the deidentified data in the Vaccine Safety Datalink available to the public.³

Thank you for considering this critical and important request from ICAN.

Yours truly,



Aaron Siri, Esq.
Elizabeth Brehm, Esq.

¹ <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/03/25/fact-sheet-biden-administration-announces-historic-10-billion-investment-to-expand-access-to-covid-19-vaccines-and-build-vaccine-confidence-in-hardest-hit-and-highest-risk-communities/>.

² <https://www.congress.gov/117/crpt/hrpt7/CRPT-117hrpt7.pdf> at 135.

³ VSD is an already anonymized platform of vaccine information and health outcomes of 10 million Americans.