PROTECT
OUR CARE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Tuesday, November 26, 2024
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Congressman Dan Goldman, Manhattan Borough President Mark Levine, Advocates Across New York Highlight How RFK Jr. is a Threat to American Health Care

Speakers from Syracuse, Buffalo Sounded the Alarm on How RFK Jr.'s Nomination for HHS Secretary Puts American Lives at Risk and Threatens the Future of Health Care



Watch recording here

New York – Today, Congressman Dan Goldman (NY-10), Manhattan Borough President Mark Levine and health care advocates joined Protect Our Care for a virtual press conference to sound the alarm on Donald Trump's nomination of Robert F. Kennedy Jr. as Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Speakers underscored that, if RFK Jr. were confirmed, it would put New Yorkers' lives at risk and jeopardize critical programs like the

Affordable Care Act, Medicare, and Medicaid. They highlighted that RFK Jr. is deeply unqualified to serve in this position, as he has no leadership qualifications in any role in public health or a government agency. Additionally, his fringe views on vaccines and his disregard for science and public health make him a danger to the American people.

As HHS Secretary, RFK Jr.'s sole focus would be pushing radical policies that undermine decades of progress to lower health care costs, conduct research on life-saving cures for diseases, and keep New Yorkers healthy. New Yorkers deserve a leader at HHS who believes in science, the efficacy of vaccines, and who is committed to strengthening and expanding health care policies enacted since the passage of the Affordable Care Act (ACA). Speakers discussed how a potential RFK Jr. leadership could affect nearly every New Yorker, as he likely would prioritize his own interests and bolster MAGA efforts to increase health care costs by slashing Medicaid, repealing the ACA, and banning Medicare from negotiating lower drug prices.

“Robert F. Kennedy Jr. is a dangerous conspiracy theorist who has no business leading the Department of Health and Human Services,” **said Congressman Dan Goldman (NY-10).** “He has no public health or science training or experience, and was clearly appointed to this vital position because he made a campaign deal with Donald Trump to trade his support for this appointment. His nomination represents an inflection point in the trajectory of the American health care system. Senate Republicans must place the health of our families and our nation above politics by rejecting this nomination."

"Robert F. Kennedy Jr. does not meet any reasonable standard of competence or experience for the critical role of Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services,” **said Manhattan Borough President Mark Levine.** “The potential of having an anti-vaccine advocate leading HHS would be dangerous to public health and threaten our ability to fight infectious diseases here in New York. Mr. Kennedy's host of science-denying beliefs has no place at HHS and would represent a setback to the health of all New Yorkers that we cannot afford."

“In Western New York, the Affordable Care Act has been a game-changer for thousands of families,” **said Raziya Hill, Buffalo advocate.** “RFK Jr.’s vision for health care would roll back the progress we’ve fought so hard to achieve. We need leaders who believe in science and are committed to making health care more affordable and accessible—not someone hellbent on removing policies designed to save lives.”

You can view the full event here, and learn more about how RFK Jr. is a threat to health care here.

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About Protect Our Care New York

Protect Our Care New York is the state team for national advocacy nonprofit Protect Our Care, which is dedicated to making high-quality, affordable and equitable health care a right, and not a privilege, for everyone. Protect Our Care educates the public, influences policy, supports health

care champions and holds politicians accountable. For more information, visit www.protectourcare.org.