

Dear Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC),

I urge the CDC to ensure broad access to vaccines and maintain science-based, independent oversight through the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP). The following critical actions must be taken to protect public health and uphold trust in vaccine recommendations:

**1 Preserve Independent Decision-Making in ACIP**

- The recent removal of expert advisors raises concerns about undue influence on ACIP's independence. RFK Jr. and the CDC must safeguard ACIP's impartiality and restore qualified experts to the committee. Vaccine recommendations must remain grounded in science, free from political or ideological interference.

**2 Ensure Full Transparency of Conflicts of Interest**

- All ACIP members must disclose financial and other conflicts of interest to maintain public trust. Transparency is essential to ensuring that recommendations are made solely in the interest of public health.

**3 Affirm the Safety and Efficacy of FDA-Approved Vaccines**

- ACIP must continue to recognize that currently available FDA-approved vaccines are safe and effective. Children, adults, and pregnant people rely on ACIP's recommendations for access to lifesaving immunizations and insurance coverage. Limiting vaccine access jeopardizes public health.

**4 Expand Equitable Access to Vaccines**

- ACIP must uphold recommendations for widespread and unhindered access to a full range of vaccines for people of all ages. Barriers to vaccination disproportionately harm vulnerable populations, including low-income families and communities of color.

## **5 Maintain Universal COVID-19 Vaccine Recommendations**

- COVID-19 remains a significant public health threat, and ACIP must continue to recommend vaccination for all eligible individuals, including children and pregnant people, at least twice annually. Weakening these recommendations would endanger high-risk populations and undermine progress in controlling the virus.

I myself have no conflicts of interest to disclose and write only as a concerned citizen who stays up to date with the latest peer-reviewed scientific research. COVID-19 vaccine access has been a crucial layer of prevention in maintaining my personal health with no adverse impact. Continued access to updated versions of the vaccine enables me and others to prevent worst-case outcomes in the event of COVID infection.

The CDC must act decisively to protect the integrity of ACIP and ensure that vaccine policies are guided by independent experts, robust evidence, and the principle of equitable access. Public health depends on it.

Sincerely,  
Kaycee Felton-Lui