

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 8, 2025

The Honorable Robert F. Kennedy Jr.
Secretary of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Secretary Kennedy,

We understand that on Wednesday, May 14, 2025, you have agreed to testify before the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.¹ As Georgia's senators who are proud to represent the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), we write to request a meeting with you while you are in the Senate to address our urgent concerns regarding your management and policies with regard to the CDC, including the unjust firing of thousands of CDC workers in Georgia.

The CDC has been a pillar of public health prevention and surveillance for more than 80 years. However, under your leadership, the agency has been eviscerated by the unjust firings of thousands of our constituents who have spent years, and in many cases decades, of their careers in public health. These unjust firings purge years of public health research and expertise, make America less healthy, and make America less safe.

We sent you a letter on March 14, 2025 requesting specific information on the initial rounds of firings of probationary employees.² **We have still not received a response.** The letter came before the Reduction in Force (RIF) notices on April 1, and we are outraged that you have not been "radically transparent"³ with us, nor have you been sufficiently responsive to the elected representatives of the thousands of fired employees at CDC.

As Secretary of Health and Human Services, you have a responsibility to be transparent about the destruction of a critical public health agency that has received years of bipartisan support throughout administrations from both parties and through Congressional appropriations and authorization of public health programs.⁴

¹ *US Health Secretary Kennedy to testify before Senate panel May 14*, Reuters (May 2, 2025), <https://www.reuters.com/business/healthcare-pharmaceuticals/us-health-secretary-kennedy-testify-before-senate-panel-may-14-2025-05-02/>

² *Senator Reverend Warnock Leads Effort to Demand Answers on Indiscriminate CDC Firings*, Reverend Raphael Warnock's Office (Mar. 20, 2025), <https://www.warnock.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/senator-reverend-warnock-leads-effort-to-demand-answers-on-indiscriminate-cdc-firings/>

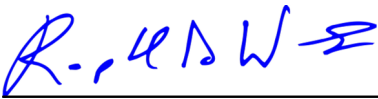
³ Maggie Astor, *Kennedy Guts Teams That Share Health Information With the Public*, The New York Times (Apr. 2, 2025), <https://www.nytimes.com/2025/04/02/well/hhs-workers-cuts-rfk-jr.html>

⁴ *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Funding Overview*, Congressional Research Service (Jul. 16, 2024), https://www.crs.gov/Reports/R47207?source=search#_Toc172883158

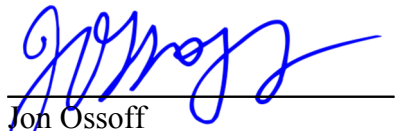
Please respond to our offices to schedule an appropriate time to meet on May 14, 2025. We look forward to meeting you in person.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,



Raphael Warnock
United States Senator



Jon Ossoff
United States Senator