



**For Immediate Release**

February 13, 2025

**The Massachusetts Public Health Alliance Statement on the Confirmation of Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. as Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services**

The Massachusetts Public Health Alliance (MPHA) is gravely concerned about the confirmation of Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. as Secretary of Health and Human Services.

Mr. Kennedy's extensive record of spreading disinformation about vaccines, HIV and AIDS, water fluoridation, and transgender health care reveals a dangerous disregard for established science and evidence-based public health measures that have saved countless lives. During confirmation hearings, Mr. Kennedy demonstrated that he lacks the requisite training, health care management experience, ethical judgement, and basic understanding of science required to serve as our nation's chief health official.

Mr. Kennedy, working at the behest of President Trump, is likely to systematically dismantle essential public health infrastructure and coerce health institutions, local officials, and public health workers to abandon evidence-based practices that have a real-world impact on the lives and health of millions. The health and safety of communities across the country depend on leadership that respects science, understands public health, and puts people ahead of politics and profits. Mr. Kennedy's confirmation represents a dangerous departure from these principles.

MPHA will continue working with state and local public health officials and community allies to protect and promote the health of all residents of the Commonwealth.

*The Massachusetts Public Health Alliance (MPHA) is a nonprofit organization that promotes a healthy Massachusetts through advocacy, community organizing, and coalition building. We are leaders in the movement to create health equity by addressing the root causes of health and wellness. We promote policies that impact the major drivers of health outcomes, such as access to healthy food, safe affordable housing, and transportation. We also advocate for equitable public health services throughout the Commonwealth. To learn more, visit [www.mapublichealth.org](http://www.mapublichealth.org)*