



April 21, 2026

The Honorable John Thune
Senate Majority Leader
511 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker of the House of Representatives
521 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Senate Minority Leader
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
Minority Leader of the House of
Representatives
2267 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Via email

Subject: Ensure that the USPSTF is made up of prevention experts, is committed to stakeholder input, and continues to meet regularly

The undersigned 40 organizations urge members of Congress to protect the integrity of the US Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) in upcoming hearings with Health and Human Services Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. Last July, the *Wall Street Journal* reported that the Secretary intends to dismiss every single member of this essential advisory body, generating significant concern among preventive health advocates across the nation. Last week, those fears were renewed during a hearing in front of Congress, where Secretary Kennedy stated that he intends to appoint members with a “clear mission.”

As an independent panel of medical experts with practice experience in fields including behavioral health, family medicine, geriatrics, internal medicine, pediatrics, obstetrics and gynecology, and nursing, the USPSTF has developed extensive evidence-based guidelines that serve as essential resources for primary care providers across the US. For decades, USPSTF has helped ensure that preventive services for cancer, diabetes, cardiovascular health, HIV, mental health, maternal health, and other conditions are appropriately provided to millions of Americans.

We ask that Congress use upcoming public hearings with the Secretary to (1) ensure that guardrails are put in place so that the Task Force remains made up of competent, unbiased professionals with deep expertise in primary and preventive care, and (2) ensure that the Task Force remains committed to a comprehensive, systematic review and careful assessment of the available medical evidences for publishing recommendations with opportunities for stakeholder input, and (3) press the Secretary to once again convene USPSTF according to its regular annual meeting schedule.

Let's be clear: This task force isn't political. It's made up of volunteer scientists and doctors who review the evidence to determine what preventive services should be recommended for people at risk of developing conditions that cost lives and lead to increased costs for our healthcare system. Although the Secretary promised during his confirmation process to protect access to vaccines and not to impose his own views on the process for vaccine recommendations, the Secretary has already gone back on those promises by, among other things, dismissing all members of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices and installing replacement members who lack the necessary expertise to serve on that body, an action that a federal judge recently found to have been unlawful. Congress must act now to prevent the Secretary from similarly undermining the work of the USPSTF and threatening Americans' access to an even broader array of evidence-based preventive care.

Also, given the Secretary's previous statements about HIV which do not reflect the actual science, HIV stakeholders are particularly eager to see the USPSTF protected from bias and interference.

Please help us protect evidence-based preventive care in America.

Sincerely,

PrEP4All

Act Now: End AIDS (ANEA) Coalition

African Network of Adolescents and Young Persons Development (ANAYD)

AIDS ACTION BALTIMORE

AIDS Alabama

AIDS Foundation Chicago

AIDS United

Amida Care

APLA Health

Association of Nurses in AIDS Care

AVAC

Chicago Women's AIDS Project

COFI

Community Resource Initiative

Courage Forward Strategies

Equality California

Five Horizons Health Services

Get Noticed

GLMA: Health Professionals Advancing LGBTQ+ Equality

Grace Charitable & Rehabilitation Organisation

Health Justice

HealthHIV

Illinois Commission on LGBTQ+ Aging and Long-Term HIV Survival

International Association of Providers of AIDS Care
Light Youth Group cbo
Majawie Safe Space NPO
National Coalition for LGBTQ Health
National Working Positive Coalition
NMAC
PFLAG National
Positive People Network Inc
Presbyterian HIV Network. PHEWA, Presbyterian Church USA
Shri Radheykrishna Oaj (AIDS Vaccine) Organisation
Silver State Equality
TaskForce Prevention and Community Services
TechnoDev Projects Nigeria
The Well Project
Treatment Action Group (TAG)
Vivent Health
WashU