The Honorable Donald J. Trump President of the United States The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Trump,

Millions of Americans voted for you to Make America Healthy Again because of your courageous campaign promise to stand up for those of us "who want clean air, clean water, and a healthy nation have concerns about toxins in our environment and pesticides in our food."

We are grateful for your leadership, for your awakening of the nation to these urgent issues, and for your appointment of Secretary Kennedy to help advance this agenda. But now, a serious threat stands in the way—and we respectfully urge you to ensure that Congress follows through with your promise to protect our nation's children.

Unfortunately, we must bring to your attention an urgent issue regarding the health of our nation, and one that we are concerned may represent peril for the Republican majority in the House at the 2026 midterms.

Namely, the provisions in the FY 2026 House Interior and Environment Appropriations Bill (Section 453) and (Section 507) create broad product liability protections for domestic and foreign pesticide and chemical manufacturers by refusing to fund the critical and necessary scientific safety assessments for product label updates of more than 57,000 synthetic chemicals that are required by law, as a favor to the pesticide lobby. In reality, this is a poison pill for Republicans.

Every year, more than 1.1 billion pounds of pesticides are used on U.S. farmland, including dozens of chemicals banned in other developed nations. These toxic substances are present in our food, air, soil, and water, and are increasingly in our children's bodies, negatively impacting normal brain development and hormonal function. Extensive peer-reviewed research has linked glyphosate to infertility, increased reproductive risks, and 6 of the top 10 most common cancers in the U.S.. At the same time, atrazine is a known endocrine disruptor affecting sexual development, and paraquat has been linked to Parkinson's and neurological and respiratory diseases.

Perhaps the greatest error of President Reagan's historic Presidency was signing into law the 1986 National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act (NCVIA). As we know all too well today, that well-intentioned but ill-advised decision created a free for all within the pharmaceutical industry that has harmed millions of Americans and one more enormous problem that has been left for your administration to correct.

It's unconscionable that Republicans in the House are now attempting to repeat that mistake by supporting similar broad liability shields for pesticides and forever chemicals. Numerous pesticides that fall under Section 453 are chemicals that are already *banned* in multiple other developed nations. Despite a massive outcry from citizens, the House Appropriations committee passed the spending bill last month with Section 453 and Section 507 intact.

Section 507 is also concerning as it prohibits the EPA from finalizing risk assessments for PFOA and PFOS forever chemicals found in biosolids spread on farmer's fields and eliminates funding for community health monitoring, new research, and the cleanup of more than 70 million acres of U.S.

farmland contaminated with PFAS from the application of biosolids. Already dozens of farms across the U.S. have been shut down and forbidden to sell their products to consumers as PFAS has been linked to serious harms in human health, including cancer, hormone disruption, liver and thyroid problems, reproductive harm, and abnormal fetal development.

The American experiment in democracy began as an act of rebellion against royal monopolies imposed by the King and Parliament. If Republicans in Congress allow these unconstitutional protections for powerful industries like pesticide manufacturers, they are betraying the very foundations of freedom and our democratic rights, putting both public health and America's competitive economy at risk.

If Republicans do not lead, they risk losing both moral ground and political support.

A 2024 poll by Accountable Iowa of Iowa Republicans found that efforts to pass cancer lawsuit liability bills, which were defeated in the Iowa state legislature this year, could significantly cost Republicans in state and federal elections in 2026.

- * 87% of registered Republican respondents oppose giving chemical companies like Bayer-Monsanto immunity from lawsuits.
- * 94% of surveyed Republican voters agreed that it is very concerning that the EPA relies on industry-funded data to carry out safety studies.

Mr. President, if Make America Healthy Again is to mean anything, now is the time to act. Stripping Section 453 and Section 507 is not partisan—it's about protecting families, defending farmers, and preserving the right to seek justice and accountability in our nation's courts. Americans across the spectrum want health, transparency, and the right to be free of toxic chemicals that cause known physical harm to millions of Americans daily.

Mr. President, creating broad liability protections for pesticides is a losing issue for your party and your coalition, and may well cost you the House majority in the midterms. This would also be a travesty of justice along the lines of the 1986 NCVIA.

We ask you to take action to make sure any protections for pesticides are stricken from this Appropriations bill, especially Section 453 and Section 507, and urge you to act now to protect our people, preserve your legacy, and show the nation that Make America Healthy Again is more than a campaign slogan. It's a promise.

cc:

The Honorable Robert F. Kennedy Jr. Secretary
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