

April 15, 2025

Re: Community Water Fluoridation

Dear U.S. Representatives and Senators:

We, the undersigned organizations, are proud to affirm the safety and effectiveness of community water fluoridation. What has been lauded as one of the ten greatest public health achievements of the 20th century has recently become politicized and gravely misrepresented. The possibility of a federal effort to cease the fluoridation of water supplies – stripping that authority from local and state jurisdictions – has become known. It is our duty – as health professionals, dental experts, advocates, and researchers – to proactively combat this misinformation being spread to the people of the United States.

Our organizations unite in deep fear of the consequences of the cessation of water fluoridation. The U.S. experienced massive reductions in the prevalence of tooth decay in the years that followed its introduction in the 1950s and 1960s. Most people in the U.S. today have never seen nor personally experienced the severity of tooth decay that exists without fluoride. With an abrupt departure from water fluoridation, our nation would undoubtedly experience a rapidly rising incidence of decay. The U.S. does not have capacity in the oral health workforce to support the emergency, surgical, and restorative dental needs that would result. There would be increased pain and suffering, and more missed school and work. None of this is necessary.

Much of the recent discourse is based on incomplete information and interpretation of studies that have limitations undermining their usefulness. The public view of this information has been an exaggerated response driven by political and social influences rather than scientific perspectives. It is important to note that in its almost century long use, water fluoridation has been studied widely and its benefits and safety validated.

Community water fluoridation remains the only way to ensure that *all* people – *especially* those who are at greatest risk for dental disease and who have the fewest resources to maintain their oral health – can reap its cavity-preventing benefits. Dental teams, other health care professionals, and public health officials work together with patients and families to identify the various sources of fluoride being consumed or used and determine if they are sufficient for preventing cavities while not leading to issues like fluorosis. We remain committed to fluoride in water as a way to reach those most in need and we support continued research that can inform and update its optimal level over time.

We have so much more work to do to ensure all people can get the dental care they need and achieve optimal oral health. Community water fluoridation has been a proven safe, effective, equitable way of helping us work toward that goal in the United States. Our organizations remain prepared and ready to support local and state efforts to preserve community water fluoridation for the benefit of all.

Respectfully,

American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry

American Academy of Pediatrics

American Dental Association

Academy of General Dentistry

Access Ready Inc.

Alabama Academy of Pediatric Dentistry

Alabama Chapter of the American Academy
of Pediatrics

Alcan Dental Cooperative

Allies for Independence

American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial
Pathology

American Academy of Pediatrics, DC
Chapter

American Academy of Pediatrics Vermont
Chapter

American Academy of Periodontology

American Association for Dental, Oral, and
Craniofacial Research

American Association of Endodontists

American Association of Orthodontists

American Association of Public Health
Dentistry

American Dental Education Association

American Dental Hygienists' Association

American Fluoridation Institute

American Fluoridation Society

American Institute of Dental Public Health

American Network of Oral Health Coalitions

American Public Health Association

American Society of Dentist

Anesthesiologists

American Student Dental Association

Apple Tree Dental

Arcora Foundation

Arizona Dental Association

Arizona Oral Health Coalition

Arkansas State Dental Association

Asian Resources, Inc.

Association for Dental Safety (formerly
OSAP)

Association of State and Territorial Dental
Directors

Autistic Self Advocacy Network

B.E. Education Group, LLC

Best Dental Help

Better Oral Health for Massachusetts
Coalition

Big Cities Health Coalition

C.A.R.E. Clinic

California Dental Association

California Dental Hygienists' Association

California Pan-Ethnic Health Network

California School-Based Health Alliance

California Society of Pediatric Dentistry

CareQuest Institute for Oral Health

Center for Medicare Advocacy

Children's Health Alliance of Wisconsin

Children's Oral Health Network of Maine

Coalition for Oral Health for the Aging

Coalition of Texans with Disabilities

Colorado Academy of Pediatric Dentistry

Colorado Chapter of the American Student
Dental Association

Colorado Community Health Network
Colorado Dental Association
Colorado Dental Hygienists' Association
Community Catalyst
Connecticut Oral Health Initiative
Connecticut Society of Pediatric Dentists
Connecticut State Dental Association
DALE Foundation
Delaware Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics
Delaware State Dental Society
Delta Dental Plans Association
Dent County Health Center (MO)
Dental Assisting National Board
Dental Connections
Dental Trade Alliance
Dentistry.One
Dientes Community Dental Care
District of Columbia Dental Society
Elevate Oral Care
Enable Dental
Families USA
Family First Health
First Focus on Children
Florida Academy of Pediatric Dentistry
Florida Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
Florida Dental Association
Florida Oral Health Alliance
Fluoride Exposed
Georgia Academy of Pediatric Dentistry
Georgia Dental Association

Gerontological Society of America
Hawaii Academy of Pediatric Dentistry
Hawaii Dental Association
Hawkeye Community College Dental Clinic
Health Forward Foundation
Hispanic Dental Association
The Hygiene Hive
Idaho Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
Idaho State Dental Association
IFLOSS: Illinois Oral Health Coalition
IHCare+
Illinois Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics
Illinois State Dental Society
Indiana Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
Indiana Dental Association
Indiana Oral Health Coalition
International Association of Paediatric Dentistry
Iowa Academy of Pediatric Dentistry
Iowa Dental Association
Justice in Aging
Kansas Dental Association
Kentucky Academy of Pediatric Dentistry
Kentucky Dental Association
Kentucky Oral Health Coalition
Knox County Dental (MO)
Louisiana Dental Association
Maine Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics
Maine Dental Association

Maine Society of Pediatric Dentistry
Marquette County Health Department (MI)
Maryland Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics
Maryland Dental Action Coalition
Maryland Rural Health Association
Massachusetts Academy of Pediatric Dentistry
Massachusetts Medical Society
MCNA Dental
Medicaid Medicare CHIP Services Dental Association
Medical Society of New Jersey
Metro State University Dental Department
Michigan Academy of Pediatric Dentistry
Michigan Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
Michigan Dental Association
Michigan Dental Hygienists' Association
Michigan Oral Health Coalition
Michigan Public Health Association
Michigan School Health Coordinators' Association
Mid-Iowa Community Action
Minnesota Dental Association
Minnesota Dental Hygienists Association
Minnesota Dental Therapy Association
Minnesota Medical Association
Minnesota Oral Health Coalition
Mississippi Academy of Pediatric Dentistry
Mississippi Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
Mississippi Dental Association

Missouri Academy of Pediatric Dentistry
Missouri Coalition for Oral Health
Missouri Dental Association
Missouri Highlands Healthcare
Montana Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
Montana Dental Association
Mountain Family Health Centers
Montana Medical Association
Montana Primary Care Association
MouthWatch, LLC
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
National League for Nursing
Nebraska Dental Association
Nevada Dental Association
New Hampshire Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
New Hampshire Dental Society
New Jersey Academy of Pediatric Dentistry
New Jersey Dental Association
New Jersey Hispanic Dental Association
New Jersey Oral Health Coalition
New Mexico Dental Association
New York Academy of Pediatric Dentistry
New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
New York State Dental Association
New York State Oral Health Coalition
NICOS Chinese Health Coalition
North Carolina Academy of Pediatric Dentistry
North Carolina Dental Society

North Central Society of Pediatric Dentistry
North Dakota Medical Association
Northeast Pennsylvania Area Health
Education Center
Northeast Society of Pediatric Dentistry
OFFOR Health
Ohio Academy of Pediatric Dentistry
Ohio Chapter, American Academy of
Pediatrics
Ohio Dental Association
Oklahoma Dental Association
Oral Health Alliance
Oral Health Connections
Oral Health Iowa
Oral Health Kansas
Oral Health Nursing Education and Practice
Program
Oral Health Ohio
Oregon Academy of Pediatric Dentistry
Oregon Dental Association
Osborn Family Health Center
Pathwaves Partnership
Pennsylvania Academy of Pediatric Dentistry
Pennsylvania Area Health Education Center
Pennsylvania Association of Community
Health Centers
Pennsylvania Chapter, American Academy of
Pediatrics
Pennsylvania Coalition for Oral Health
Pennsylvania Dental Assistants Association
Pennsylvania Dental Association
Pennsylvania Dental Hygienists' Association
Pennsylvania Medical Society

Pennsylvania Rural Health Association
PNWU School of Dental Medicine
Pueblo Community Health Center
Randolph County Health Department (MO)
Rawlins County Dental Clinic Fund (KS)
Rhode Island Dental Association
Rhode Island Health Center Association
Rhode Island Oral Health Coalition
The Santa Fe Group
Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy
Sjogren's Foundation, Inc.
SmileMD
Smiles for Life
Society of American Indian Dentists
Society of Pediatric Cardiovascular Nurses
South Carolina Academy of Pediatric
Dentistry
South Carolina Chapter of the American
Academy of Pediatrics
South Carolina Dental Association
South Dakota Dental Association
South Dakota Oral Health Coalition
Southeastern Society of Pediatric Dentistry
Southwestern Society of Pediatric Dentistry
Stanislaus County Oral Health Advisory
Committee (CA)
State of Minnesota Special Care Dental
Clinics
Statewide Poverty Action Network
Swope Health Services
Tennessee Academy of Pediatric Dentistry
Tennessee Dental Association
Texas Academy of Pediatric Dentistry

Texas Dental Association
Texas Pediatric Society
University of Michigan Health C.S. Mott
Children's Hospital
Utah Dental Association
Vermont Academy of Family Physicians
Vermont Medical Society
Vermont State Dental Society
Vermont UVM Autism Collaborative
Virginia Coalition of Latino Organizations
Virginia Dental Association
Virginia Health Catalyst
VOICES for Alabama's Children
Voices for Vermont's Children
Washington State Academy of Pediatric
Dentistry

Washington State Dental Association
Washington State Oral Health Coalition
Well Child Center
West Virginia Chapter of the American
Academy of Pediatrics
West Virginia Dental Association
West Virginia Dental Hygienists' Association
West Virginia Oral Health Coalition, Inc
Western Society of Pediatric Dentistry
Western Treasure Valley Dental Society (ID)
Wisconsin Chapter of the American Academy
of Pediatrics
Wisconsin Dental Association
Wisconsin Oral Health Coalition
The Wright Center for Community Health
Wyoming Dental Association

CC: The Honorable Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., Secretary, U.S. Department of Health and Human
Services

The Honorable Lee Zeldin, Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Director Susan Monarez, Acting Director, Centers for Disease Control & Prevention