

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

July 28, 2025

The Honorable Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.
Secretary, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Secretary Kennedy:

We write to express our strong disappointment with recent reports by the Associated Press (AP)¹ that the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) signed an agreement to share personal information of millions of Medicaid enrollees with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). We urge you to cease sharing this information immediately and take prompt measures to secure the data of all Medicaid enrollees, regardless of their immigration status.

We are gravely concerned by reports¹ that the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) shared personally identifiable information—including names, addresses, Social Security numbers, and immigration status—of Medicaid beneficiaries with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). Such disclosures are not only unethical but appear to violate multiple federal laws, including the Social Security Act, the Privacy Act of 1974, HIPAA, and the Federal Information Security Modernization Act (FISMA).² These statutes explicitly protect beneficiary data and limit its use solely to the proper administration of the Medicaid program. Any use of this information for immigration enforcement or other unrelated purposes is both unlawful and a breach of public trust. This misuse of sensitive health data under the Trump administration jeopardizes the privacy of over 79 million Americans, undermines the integrity of Medicaid, and raises urgent oversight and accountability concerns for Congress.

The role of HHS should be to protect the health of all those living in this country and provide essential human services, *not* to be a watchdog for DHS or act as immigration enforcement. For decades, the U.S. has ensured emergency medical care to anyone in need, regardless of immigration status.² The use of Medicaid data for immigration enforcement weaponizes health care as a surveillance mechanism for DHS. As a result, HHS erodes trust in the U.S. health care

¹ K. Kindy & A. Seitz, “Trump administration hands over Medicaid recipients’ personal data, including addresses, to ICE,” AP News (July 17, 2025), <https://apnews.com/article/immigration-medicaid-trump-ice-ab9c2267ce596089410387bfc40eeb7>

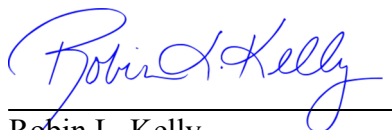
² MACPAC, “Federal Legislative Milestones in Medicaid and CHIP,” <https://www.macpac.gov/reference-materials/federal-legislative-milestones-in-medicaid-and-chip/>.

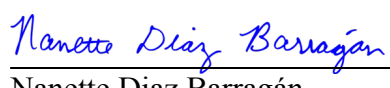
system, and we fear the consequences of this betrayal on public health. Immigrants across the country, no matter their status, will fear repercussions for seeking out emergency medical care. Black and Brown Americans, already skeptical of the integrity of the health care system, may also avoid seeking care or coverage for fear of persecution. Even slight delays in care can have disastrous health consequences for these communities and the broader U.S. population.³

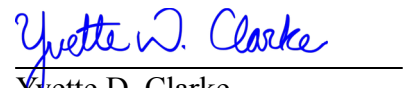
Given the significant impact this data sharing could have on the health of millions of Americans and the privacy violations it raises, we submit the following questions and request a written response no later than Friday, August 29, 2025:

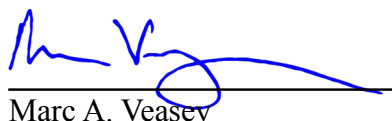
1. Immediately cease sharing personally identifiable Medicaid data with DHS and revoke all access to Medicaid databases containing personally identifiable data to all federal and non-federal personnel outside of CMS.
2. Clarify exactly what information has been shared with DHS, and explain plans discussed related to the use of this personally identifiable data as well as ongoing and future data sharing plans between the agencies.
 - o Provide all copies of communications between HHS, CMS, and DHS regarding the Trump Administration's efforts to obtain personally identifiable Medicaid data, including initial demands, negotiations, logistical planning, and agreements.
3. Cite the statute and legal authority CMS is using to transfer the data to DHS.
4. Brief the Members who signed this letter on the pillars of the agreement and the processes between the two agencies for sharing personally identifiable Medicaid data.


Sincerely,


Robin L. Kelly
Member of Congress

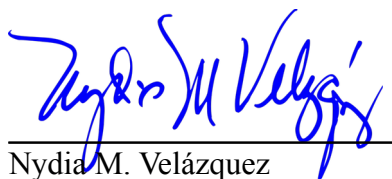

Nanette Diaz Barragán
Member of Congress


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Member of Congress


Marc A. Veasey
Member of Congress


Derek T. Tran
Member of Congress

³ M. Shukla, M. Schilt-Solberg, & W. Gibson-Scipio, "Medical Mistrust: A Concept Analysis," *Nurs Rep.* 2025 Mar 17;15(3):103. doi: 10.3390/nursrep15030103. PMID: 40137676; PMCID: PMC11944586.



Nydia M. Velázquez
Member of Congress



Dave Min
Member of Congress



Delia C. Ramirez
Member of Congress



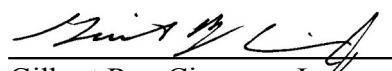
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Adriano Espaillat
Chair
Congressional Hispanic
Caucus



Darren Soto
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Gilbert Ray Cisneros, Jr.
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Andrea Salinas
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Maxine Waters
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Danny K. Davis
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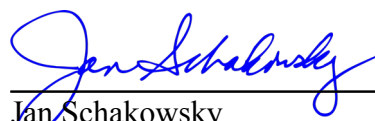
Raul Ruiz, M.D.
Member of Congress



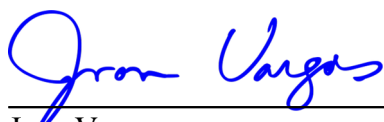
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Valerie P. Foushee
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Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress



Juan Vargas
Member of Congress



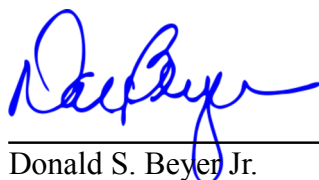
Marilyn Strickland
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John Garamendi
Member of Congress



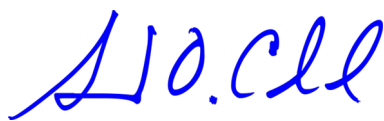
Doris Matsui
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Terri A. Sewell
Member of Congress



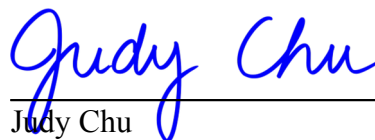
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