

# "Hearing to Consider The Nomination of Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., Of California, to Be Secretary of Health and Human Services"

## Transcript

00:04:14 Hello, this is Kim Macrosenberg. I'm ChD's general  
counsel, and we are here this morning waiting for  
00:04:20 the courtesy hearing for Robert F. Kennedy Jr. Before the  
health Education labor and Pensions  
00:04:26 committee the hearing yesterday before the finance comm.  
Committee is the decisive vote that will  
00:04:32 take the final vote to the Senate floor. So today is a  
courtesy hearing. We've got a lovely crowd of  
00:04:38 people here who are waiting online and. Have been waiting  
a long time, as they were yesterday, and  
00:04:44 this is really an historic day when we're elevating. To a  
new level discourse about health and  
00:04:51 wellness and chronic disease, especially in children.  
00:04:55 Calvin. Where are you from? Dwight, Illinois. Okay. And  
why are you here today? To help Bobby  
00:04:59 confirm. Okay. Why do you want them confirmed? This  
country needs them. In what way depicts our  
00:05:06 health problems, to fix our chronic disease, fix our food  
supply.  
00:05:12 All the things that are making us sick. Is this personal  
for you? Very personal. I have a ten year  
00:05:16 old son at home.  
00:05:20 And I can't look at him at night and say that I didn't  
try. To make a difference. And then we  
00:05:25 finally have somebody like Bobby that is putting his  
entire life and integrity on the line that we  
00:05:30 can rally behind.  
00:05:33 And all try to fight together to make this happen. I have  
been a supporter at Bobby since I became a  
00:05:38 mom six years ago. I think cancer race in America are just  
terrifying, and I want a better future  
00:05:44 for them.  
00:05:46 So what he's been talking about influenced the way you  
raise your kids.  
00:05:50 Yeah, I've always been into nutrition and health and  
wellness, but since becoming a mom, it's burned

00:05:55 the fire. So you're here to support his confirmation? Yes. Confirm. Bobby here. To support bobby.

00:06:03 This has been for me 30 years in the making, really trying to be an advocate for our children on the

00:06:09 spectrum, and we've been just fighting to get health in our kids and truly be able to have access to

00:06:16 real information.

00:06:18 The dangers and the medications and the vaccines and the foods that we're eating and just happy that

00:06:23 we are at this point. It's a pinnacle point. I could not miss it. It's just going to be incredible

00:06:28 when they confirm Bobby, and it's going to be a whole new world, so I'm just thrilled to be here.

00:06:31 It's an absolute honor. I wouldn't miss today and yesterday for nothing in the world. Bobby's the

00:06:36 only man for the job. And he crushed it. Yesterday. He killed it? Definitely. 100% confirmation. We

00:06:43 will not need the JD. Vance tiebreaker. And I'm here just to support Bobby, as I always did back in.

00:06:50 Albany, new York, with the religious exemptions in 2019. Since then, I've been always supporting

00:06:55 amazing, wonderful man. They gave him grief yesterday.

00:06:59 They got dirty. Downright dirty. Talking about political money. How many millions of dollars does

00:07:05 Elizabeth Warren receive from Big Pharma and the rest of them, they're all dirty.

00:07:10 But Bobby. Got it. Hi, I'm Dr. Sheila Fury from the Virginia Medical Freedom alliance and. I am here

00:07:15 to support the RFK confirmation. This is what America needs. We need to return. To health, and this

00:07:22 is the way to hold the medical establishment accountable, and that's really critical. Do you have

00:07:28 friends your age who are similarly excited about his candidates?

00:07:33 I think, especially young people, because it's a sentiment I see echoed a lot where it's like you

00:07:38 think you're, like, forgotten or left behind.

00:07:41 Especially in the Congress or the government or.

00:07:44 Old people where they overstay their time and then they don't, and even just. The issues where

00:07:49 you're signed, they just represent. They could think certain things, but they outlast even left and

00:07:54 right and whatever, and it switches, and then they have to switch parties to do whatever.

00:07:59 But I think with Kennedy,

00:08:01 It's really like, because there's so much stuff for it. We just grew up. With it. So it's like

00:08:04 everyone knows the food isn't good. These things aren't. Good or blah, blah, blah, blah. But it's

00:08:08 like an open secret. For some reason. Just nothing gets done about until. Right. It's like a breath

00:08:14 of fresh. Air, basically. Great. John, thank you so much. Thank you. We really need to disrupt. And

00:08:20 change the model of how healthcare is delivered. It's not just access to more drugs. And access to.

00:08:28 Medical surgical intervention. It's access to plant foods that have the dense nutrients in them that

00:08:35 can reverse chronic disease that can reverse diabetes. I'm also founder of the HBCU college of plant

00:08:41 based lifestyle medicine. We work with HBCUs in training a future generation of healthcare providers

00:08:47 that will be. Skilled in prescribing plants as medicine, as primary care so that people can have the

00:08:54 choice doesn't mean they don't have access to nutraceuticals or. Surgical interventions, but our

00:09:00 physicians need to be trained and how to use plants and herbs that are consistent with the lives and

00:09:05 the faith of the people that they're serving, and let that. Be the primary care first. Give them

00:09:10 that opportunity to make lifestyle changes. Exercise, water.

00:09:15 This is a disruption of how the medical system is forming right now. By day, I'm a medical

00:09:21 malpractice defense lawyer. I defend doctors, and I understand the system and the inequities that is

00:09:27 definitely impacting communities of color. And so Robert F. Kennedy is going to have this grand

00:09:33 opportunity to make some substantial changes. In the healthcare delivery and access to foods that

00:09:39 are nutritious and dense that can reverse heart disease, diabetes and other chronic diseases. So we

00:09:45 have high expectations of him, and we believe that he has a heart for wanting to bring about healing

00:09:51 to all people. And especially communities of color. So thank you for giving me this opportunity.

00:09:56 Thank you for our burden. And our mission. Very exciting. Thank you so much. You're so welcome.

00:09:59 Thank you. And I have seven children.

00:10:03 And the first two are vaccinated by the schedule and are injured, chronically ill, just to be your

00:10:10 allergies, autoimmune stuff, asthma. Then I have five more  
that. Are not back. They have no chronic  
00:10:17 health issues. Thank you for sharing that. It's really  
important people need to understand this.  
00:10:22 People are so afraid of. Not vaccinating, but your kids,  
who are unvaccinated, are healthy, very  
00:10:27 healthy. And I will say, too, that we've never had a  
problem with any school situation.  
00:10:35 And I will say that you should always have a choice. You  
can have your vaccines to just have  
00:10:40 transparent data. So you can make informed consent. It's  
really important. Thank you so much. Thank  
00:10:47 you, guys. How about you tell us your name? I'm Jen and  
I'm from Nashville. As well, okay. Why are  
00:10:52 you here? I'm with my friend. But more importantly, I have  
a similar story to hers. I have two kids  
00:10:59 who. I just did what you were supposed to do. What the  
doctor said you should do. Vaccinate them on  
00:11:04 this schedule. They have ocular nerve damage. Both of  
them? My son. Is more severe. He's got the  
00:11:09 ocular nerve damage. He's actually legally blind. In that  
eye. No. Vision problems run in our  
00:11:15 family, so.  
00:11:19 That was new. And then he also has epilepsy and severe  
adhd and things that just, he was not that  
00:11:24 baby. It was like a drastic shift. At 15 months, we saw a  
different kid and. Then I had a third baby  
00:11:31 who was an emergent cc section. And for the first time,  
and I couldn't tell you why at the time I  
00:11:36 felt this gut pause. I was like, let's not. Put anything  
else in that little body. And I had to  
00:11:41 fight our pediatrician every time I would go in. I felt  
like I had to have a doctoral dissertation  
00:11:46 ready as to why I was waiting and my husband was on board.  
We started doing a ton of research on our  
00:11:51 own. We switched to a pediatrician who's actually pro  
vaccine, but she is more pro parent. Choice,  
00:11:57 so she will. Present you with the information and then go,  
okay, it's up to you. You know best. You  
00:12:03 know your child best, and so we're so grateful for her,  
but the same as my friend. We're just so  
00:12:07 grateful for his voice.  
00:12:10 Normalizing this because for so long we were weird, right?  
And we were outcast and typed. As the

00:12:16 weird one. And so now it's becoming more commonplace not to not vaccinate. But to question it,

00:12:21 right? And to trust your mama gut that God gave you.

00:12:26 You know your child best. It's not a fear based thing, right? It's actually. An informed decision.

00:12:31 Just like vaccinating right here. My name is Angelique Johnson. I'm from Sterling Heights, Michigan.

00:12:36 Hi, Angelique. Why are you here? Oh, I'm here. To support RFK too, as well with the medical health

00:12:42 freedom.

00:12:45 Network, and I'm with Maya Han and with Michigan for vaccine choice. Right. I had a grandson regress

00:12:50 into autism at two and a half and having the appropriate food for our demographic. Of kids is very

00:12:56 important. It's important how they feel. And if there's sensory issues, so I'm praying that he can

00:13:01 be a great help. In that effort of getting the right foods into the schools and for our communities

00:13:08 and especially for our injured kids.

00:13:36 Thank everybody for being here. Bobby, I see your family behind you. And I like your family, except.

00:13:40 For the nephew who's a Florida gator. We'll let that go.

00:13:45 The Senate Committee on health, Education, labor and pensions will please come to order. Again.

00:13:49 Senator Kennedy. Bobby Kennedy. I'm sorry. Thank you for appearing before the committee and for your

00:13:55 willingness to serve. Our country. As your family has served our country. You and I have talked at

00:13:59 length about a variety of issues impacting Americans health. These have been candid conversations.

00:14:05 And I very much appreciate your willingness to engage, and there are many things you and I agree.

00:14:10 On.

00:14:11 We're in total agreement on the need to address ultra processed food to reduce obesity.

00:14:17 And obesity, of course, the leading cause of chronic disease and therefore of shorter lifespans. And

00:14:23 this will be a priority in this committee, and I look forward to collaborating with you if you are.

00:14:28 Confirmed.

00:14:30 But it's no secret I have some reservations about. Your past positions on vaccines and a couple of

00:14:36 other issues. And so we know a lot about you. I'll tell you a little bit about myself.

00:14:43 Before I entered politics or even thought about running  
for office. I practiced medicine for 30  
00:14:47 years, working in public hospitals in California and  
Louisiana. Specializing in liver disease,  
00:14:53 caring for those who otherwise would not have had a  
specialist, if you will. Dedicating my life to  
00:14:59 saving lives. That is being a doctor. Now, there is a  
moment. In my career. That really informs me  
00:15:06 now. In the early two thousand s I was loading a patient  
onto an air ambulance. An 18 year old young  
00:15:14 woman.  
00:15:19 To go to get a liver transplant from acute liver failure  
due to hepatitis B.  
00:15:25 Barely an adult, her entire life ahead of her, all the  
hopes and dreams she might want, the  
00:15:29 children, the grandchildren, the future generations wiped  
away. If she did not get to the LSU  
00:15:35 hospital in Shreveport for an emergency transplant. Now,  
the transplant. An invasive.  
00:15:44 And 2000 quarter of a million dollar surgery. That had a  
five to 10% mortality rate. But even if she  
00:15:50 survived, will leave her with a liver transplant.  
00:15:55 And hospital bills every year of \$50,000. And as he took  
off, it was the worst day of my medical  
00:16:00 career because. I thought \$50 of vaccines could have  
prevented this all, and that was an inflection.  
00:16:09 Point in my career. And since then, I've tried to do  
everything I can to make sure I never have to  
00:16:15 speak to another parent about their child.  
00:16:19 Dying due to a vaccine preventable disease.  
00:16:23 So I worked with community and business leaders to form a  
public private partnership in the Capital  
00:16:28 Region. Of Louisiana, we vaccinated 36,000 children for  
hepatitis B. And since the CDC and the ACIP  
00:16:37 have recommended universal vaccination for children. The  
number of acute hepatitis B cases. In our  
00:16:43 country has declined by almost 90%.  
00:16:47 So as a physician who's been involved in immunization  
programs, I've seen the benefits of  
00:16:51 vaccinations. I know they save lives. I know they're a  
crucial part of keeping our nation healthy.  
00:16:59 Now, Bobby, I've learned you got a tremendous following.  
My phone blows up with people who really  
00:17:05 follow you. And there are many who trust you more than  
they trust their own physician. And so the

00:17:13 question.

00:17:16 I need to have answered is, what will you do with that trust?

00:17:22 Whether it's justified or not.

00:17:25 And you may not want this to be the case, but I have constituents who partly credit you. For their

00:17:32 decision to not vaccinate their child.

00:17:36 Now that's a real conversation.

00:17:39 And I'm hearing from them, and they want you confirmed.

00:17:43 Now, you're going to tell us this week, as you did. I think you'll tell us today, as you did in

00:17:47 finance committee yesterday, that your pro vaccine.

00:17:52 What will you tell the american mother?

00:17:55 Will you tell her to vaccinate her child or to not?

00:17:59 Or to have a conversation with her doctor. But for many. That will be permission to not vaccinate

00:18:06 their child. We know that to be the case.

00:18:09 So. Your past of undermining confidence in vaccines with unfounding or misleading arguments,

00:18:17 concerns me.

00:18:19 Can I trust that that is now in the past? Can data and information change your opinion or. Will you

00:18:26 only look for data supporting a predetermined conclusion.

00:18:31 This is imperative. You will have the responsibility to restore trust in our public health

00:18:39 institutions.

00:18:42 In this position you have. Now let's turn a little political.

00:18:47 I want President Trump to be successful. It's important for our country. Any action you take as HHS

00:18:53 secretary will shape his legacy, and we both want that legacy to be positive.

00:18:59 So thank you for coming before the committee, for being willing to serve, and I look forward to

00:19:04 today's conversation, and with that, I yield to my ranking member, Senator Sanders.

00:19:11 Thank you, Senator Cassidy, chairman and Mr. Kennedy, thanks for being with us.

00:19:16 I'm going to discuss later the issue of vaccines, which Senator Cassidy raised, and it's of concern,

00:19:22 I think, to all of us. But before I go there,

00:19:27 I wanted to congratulate you, in a sense, for the phrase make America healthy again. I think that is

00:19:34 a.

00:19:36 Cry that all of us. A goal that all of us share because,  
as you've indicated, we are a very  
00:19:41 unhealthy. Society. We are the richest country in the  
history of the world, and yet we rank far  
00:19:46 below every other major country. In terms of our life  
expectancy. That's outrageous.  
00:19:54 To me equally outrageous. As if you're working class in  
this country, you're going to live six or  
00:19:59 seven years shorter lives than if you are rich.  
00:20:04 In America today.  
00:20:06 68,000 people die every year because they can't get to a  
doctor. They can't. Afford to get to a  
00:20:13 doctor. You pointed out yesterday the outrageous cost of  
healthcare in America two or three times  
00:20:18 more than other industrialized countries, are paying  
unbelievably in this country, hundreds of.  
00:20:26 Thousands of people deal with cancer, struggling for their  
lives. You know what happens to them?  
00:20:30 They go bankrupt. They deplete their lives savings. In  
other words,  
00:20:37 When we talk about making America healthy.  
00:20:42 You got to talk about? A broken, corrupt health care  
system.  
00:20:47 Your uncle, President Kennedy.  
00:20:51 Your father, Bobby Kennedy. Great senator from New York.  
00:20:55 Your uncle sat right now with Senate Kennedy is. Senator  
Cassidy is sitting chairman of this  
00:21:00 committee.  
00:21:02 All of them.  
00:21:04 Did what I think is the right thing. They said healthcare  
is a human right. They looked all over the  
00:21:08 world.  
00:21:10 You saw every other major country guaranteeing health care  
to all people with their rich or poor.  
00:21:14 Young or old, so I'm not quite sure how we can move. To  
making America healthy again. Unless we have  
00:21:21 the guts to take on the insurance companies and the drug  
companies and guarantee health care to all  
00:21:25 people. I'll be asking you a question about that lowering  
the cost of prescription drugs.  
00:21:31 How do you make America healthy again if one out of four  
people in this country cannot afford. The  
00:21:37 price of prescription drugs, which is far higher in  
America, any other country on earth.



00:21:43 Under President Biden, we made some progress, and this committee played an active role in having

00:21:49 Medicare begin for the first time. Negotiating the price of drugs that we are paying, and I'm going

00:21:56 to ask you whether or not.

00:21:58 You will demand that President Trump follow what we accomplished here.

00:22:04 We are the only major country on earth not to guarantee paid family and medical leave.

00:22:10 Mr. Kennedy, there are women today who are having babies. Then they got to go back to work. In a

00:22:17 week or two.

00:22:19 Because they have no guaranteed paid family in medical leave. How do you have a healthy country when

00:22:25 women are forced to go back to work when women and men.

00:22:29 Get fired because they stay home taking care of their sick kids. That's not making America. Healthy

00:22:35 again.

00:22:37 And I would go a little bit beyond the jurisdiction of health and human services, but I think it's

00:22:43 important.

00:22:44 If you are working 50 or 60 hours a week, making 13, \$14 an hour, which is what millions of

00:22:52 Americans are. Can you be healthy?

00:22:54 Will you join those of us who think that in the United States.

00:22:59 Wealthiest country on earth. People work 40 hours a week. They should not live in poverty. Got to

00:23:03 raise the minimum wage.

00:23:05 To a living wage.

00:23:08 And lastly.

00:23:09 And we discuss this very briefly.

00:23:12 President Trump leaves that climate change as a hoax.

00:23:16 I happen to believe in, most Americans believe in virtually in the entire scientific community

00:23:21 believes that it is an existential threat to this planet. I don't know how you're going. To make

00:23:25 America healthy again.

00:23:28 Or keep the world healthy when you have massive heat waves and droughts and floods and extreme

00:23:33 weather disturbances. Louisiana had them. Vermont had them. That's not keeping America. That's not.

00:23:39 Within the jurisdiction of HHS. But I surely hope that you will if you are confirmed. Demand that

00:23:46 President Trump changed his position and work with those  
of us. Who are trying to transform our  
00:23:51 energy system and, in fact, keep America healthy by  
addressing the crisis. Of climate change. Thank  
00:23:57 you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Senator Sanders. And now I'd  
like to welcome our nominee, Mr. Robert  
00:24:01 F. Kennedy Jr. Mr. Kennedy has a long career as an  
attorney and advocate for various health and  
00:24:06 environmental concerns. He has championed championed a  
range of. Issues like healthy foods and  
00:24:11 efforts to fight chronic disease, while calling for  
greater transparency and accountability and our  
00:24:16 public health infrastructure. Mr. Kennedy has an important  
opportunity to reform the department and  
00:24:21 to restore trust. In our federal health agencies. I look  
forward to hearing more about his policy  
00:24:26 priorities and his plans to advance President Trump's  
agenda to make America. America Healthy again.  
00:24:32 I thank you for joining us today. And I'll now turn over  
to Mr. Kennedy to introduce himself.  
00:24:38 Is your microphone on?  
00:24:42 Is your microphone on?  
00:24:45 Thank you, Chairman Cassidy. Thank you, senator.  
00:24:49 Ranking members.  
00:24:52 And our ranking members, senator, senators and other  
members of this distinguished committee. Cheryl  
00:24:58 and I were heartbroken last night.  
00:25:02 To learn the tragic accident that took so many of our  
fellow Americans, including our service  
00:25:08 members.  
00:25:11 We are in an apartment where we were able to see the  
rescue operations.  
00:25:17 From our window.  
00:25:20 Senator Marshall, please know that I will continue.  
00:25:27 To pray for you as I texted you.  
00:25:31 As those who were lost, who called your state home.  
00:25:35 As well as senators Cain and also Brooks.  
00:25:39 We appreciate the first responders and local officials who  
are working so hard. May God continue to  
00:25:45 be with us.  
00:25:48 And all who are impacted and those who continue to help  
with the recovery.  
00:25:53 I'm humbled to be sitting here today as President Trump's  
nominee.

00:25:58 To oversee the us department of health and human services.  
I want to thank President Trump for  
00:26:03 entrusting me to deliver on his promise to make America  
healthy again.  
00:26:09 I'm grateful to have my family here once more with me. I  
want to introduce my wife, Cheryl.  
00:26:17 My daughter kick my son Bobby.  
00:26:21 My daughter in law, Amarillas.  
00:26:24 And my nephew, Jackson Hines. I want to thank them, as  
well as the many members of my large extended  
00:26:31 family.  
00:26:32 Or the love they have so generously shared.  
00:26:36 I want to particularly thank you, Mr. Chairman, the time  
you've spent with me.  
00:26:42 And the times we've talked in person.  
00:26:45 I found I greatly admire your passion for public health  
and your commitment to science and this  
00:26:51 committee. Is blessed to have a medical doctor at Elm and  
two other medical doctors, Dr. Marshall  
00:26:58 and Dr. Rand on the committee.  
00:27:02 I explained yesterday, the finance committee, that my  
journey into the issue of health began my  
00:27:07 career as an environmental lawyer working with hunters and  
fishmen and mothers in the communities in  
00:27:14 small towns along the Hudson River, I learned that human  
health and environmental health are  
00:27:20 intertwined and inseparable. The same chemicals that kill  
fish, also sick in human beings.  
00:27:28 Today, Americans overall health. Is in grievous condition.  
Over 70% of adults and a third of  
00:27:34 children are overweight or obese.  
00:27:38 Diabetes is ten times more prevalent than in 1960.  
00:27:42 Cancer among young people is rising by one or 2% per year.  
00:27:47 Autoimmune diseases, neurodevelopmental disorders, asthma,  
Alzheimer's, ADHD. Depression, addiction  
00:27:55 and a host of other physical and mental health conditions  
are all on the rise.  
00:28:01 United States has worse health and any other developed  
nation.  
00:28:05 Yet we spend more on health care sometimes.  
00:28:09 Triple.  
00:28:10 As other comparable nations.  
00:28:14 Last year, we spent 4.8 trillion, not counting the  
indirect cost from missed work.

00:28:20 That's almost a fifth of GDP. It is tantam out to a 20% tax. On the entire economy. No wonder

00:28:27 America has trouble competing with countries. Pay a third of what we do for their health care and

00:28:34 yet have a healthier workforce.

00:28:37 But I don't want to make this too much of a money.

00:28:41 It's the human tragedy that moves us to care.

00:28:44 President Trump has promised to resurrect the America's global strength and our leadership. And

00:28:50 restore the american dream.

00:28:53 He understands that we can't be a strong nation.

00:28:57 Unless we're first to healthy people. A healthy person has a thousand.

00:29:03 Dreams. A sick person has only one.

00:29:06 Today, over half our countrymen and women.

00:29:11 Are chronically ill and have only one dream.

00:29:15 When I met with President Trump last summer, I discovered that he has more than just a concern. For

00:29:20 this tragic situation, but genuine care.

00:29:24 President Trump has committed to restoring the american dream, and 77 million Americans delivered a

00:29:30 mandate to do just that.

00:29:33 Due in part to his embrace, an elevation of the Make America healthy and movement.

00:29:40 That movement, led largely by Maham Oms from every state. Many of him whom have traveled to be here

00:29:47 yesterday and today.

00:29:49 Senators. This is one of the most powerful and transcendent movements I've ever seen. The nation is

00:29:55 ready for change and recognizes that this is a unique inflection moment. I promise President Trump

00:30:02 that have confirmed I will do everything of my power.

00:30:06 Put health of America back on track.

00:30:10 And I've been greatly heartened to discover a deep level of care among members of this committee,

00:30:14 both Democrats and Republicans.

00:30:17 It came away from our conversations.

00:30:20 Hopeful we can put aside our divisions for the sake of a healthy America.

00:30:26 For a long time, the nation has been locked in a divisive healthcare debate about who pays well.

00:30:33 When health care cost reached 20% of GDP, there are no good options, only bad ones.

00:30:40 Shifting the burden around between government and industry and corporations. Is like changing decade

00:30:47 chairs on the Titanic. Our country will sink beneath a sea of desperation and debt if we don't

00:30:54 change course and ask the fundamental question, why are health care cause so high in the first

00:30:59 place.

00:31:02 This obvious question? The obvious answer to that question is chronic disease.

00:31:07 A CDC says over 90% of health care spending goes toward managing chronic disease.

00:31:14 Which hits lower income Americans the hardest. The president's pledge is not to make some Americans

00:31:20 healthy again, but to make all Americans healthy again.

00:31:24 There is no single culprit for chronic disease.

00:31:28 Much as I've criticized certain industries and agencies, President Trump and I know that most of

00:31:34 their scientists and experts. Genuinely care about american health. Therefore, we will bring

00:31:41 together all stakeholders in pursuit of this unifying goal. Before I conclude, I want to make sure

00:31:48 this committee is clear about a few things. News reports and many in the hearing yesterday have

00:31:54 claimed that I'm antifaxine. And anti industry.

00:31:58 Well, I'm either. I'm pro safety, I'm pro good science. I work. For 40 years to raise awareness

00:32:06 about mercury and other toxics and fish, and nobody called me. Antifish.

00:32:12 All of my kids are vaccinated. I believe vaccines have saved millions of lives and play a critical

00:32:18 role in healthcare.

00:32:21 Or am I the enemy of food producers?

00:32:24 American farms are the bedrock of our culture and our national security.

00:32:29 I was a four age kid and I spent my summers on ranches. I want to work. With our farmers and food

00:32:35 producers to remove burdensome regulations and unleash american ingenuity.

00:32:42 Maha simply cannot succeed if we do not have the partnership of America's farmers.

00:32:49 And my advocacy. Have often disturbed the status quo by asking uncomfortable questions, and I'm not

00:32:56 going to apologize. For that.

00:32:59 We have massive health problems in our countries that we must face honestly. And the first thing

00:33:04 I've done every morning for the past 20 years. Is to pray to God that he would put me in a position.

00:33:12 Where I can end the chronic disease epidemic and protect our children.

00:33:17 That's why I'm so grateful to President Trump.

00:33:20 The opportunity to sit here before you today. And seek your support and your partnership in this

00:33:27 endeavor.

00:33:29 I'll conclude with a promise to you, Mr. Chairman, members of this committee, to the president.

00:33:36 And most of all, to the tens of millions of parents across America, especially the moms who have

00:33:41 propelled this issue to center stage. Should I be so privileged as to be confirmed, we will. Make

00:33:48 sure our tax dollars support healthy foods.

00:33:51 It will scrutinize the chemical additives to our food supply. We'll remove the financial conflicts

00:33:57 of interest from the agencies. Will create an honest, unbiased, science driven HHS.

00:34:05 Accountable to the president, to the Congress and to the american people. They reverse the chronic

00:34:10 disease epidemic and put the nation back on the road to good health.

00:34:16 Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Kennedy.

00:34:19 I'll start.

00:34:21 And for everyone's information, Yesterday, finance went long. This is not the Star chamber. This is

00:34:28 where I think most people can get their questions out in five minutes. And so I'll let it go a

00:34:32 little bit over five, but out of deference. To our witness who's already testified for 3 hours. I'll

00:34:37 be a little tight. That said, at the end, taking the ranking member and the chairman's privilege, we

00:34:42 will have a chance. The two of us will have a chance to ask a little bit more, and that's. What you

00:34:46 get for being a chair.

00:34:48 So that said. Let's begin.

00:34:53 Bobby, if I may, because you said I could. You had once described yourself as pro vaccine to me.

00:34:59 Now, the context of what I'm about to ask is that there's multiple studies establishing the safety

00:35:04 of measles and hepatitis B vaccine and specifically that they are not a cause of autism.

00:35:11 In this position. And you have previously said yes.

00:35:15 But.

00:35:18 If you are approved to this decision, to this position.

00:35:22 Will you say unequivocally? Will you reassure mothers unequivocally and without qualification that

00:35:30 the measles and hepatitis b. Vaccines do not cause autism. Senator, I am not going into the agency

00:35:36 with any kind. Of a yes or no question.

00:35:43 Because the data is there, and that's kind of a yes or no, and I don't mean to cut you off, but that

00:35:47 really is a yes or no.

00:35:49 If the data is there, I will absolutely do that. Now there is the data. Just because.

00:35:56 I used to do hepatitis b. As I said, I know the doubt is there.

00:36:01 Then I will be the first person. If you show me data, I will be the first person.

00:36:07 To assure the american people to take, that they need to take those vaccines. Now, what concerns me

00:36:13 is that you've cast doubt on some of these vaccines recently. I mean, like, last few. Years, but the

00:36:19 data, and I could quote some of it.

00:36:22 The data has been there for a long time. I've been out of the game. I've been in Congress for 16

00:36:27 years, and this data was, in large measure generated before I came to Congress.

00:36:33 So my concern is that if you were making those claims and being so influential, I mean, your bully

00:36:39 pulled this incredible.

00:36:42 With that responsibility. That you never acquainted yourself with anything that might. Contradict

00:36:48 that which you were previously saying.

00:36:50 So let me ask once more. If the data is brought to you and these studies that have been out there

00:36:55 for quite some time and have been peer reviewed, and it shows that these two vaccines are not

00:36:59 associated with autism.

00:37:03 Will you ask no, I need even more. Or will you say no?

00:37:07 I see this. It stood the test of time, and I unequivocally and without qualification say that this

00:37:12 does not cause autism. Not only will I do that, but I will apologize. For any statements that Ms.

00:37:17 Led people otherwise. Thank you. Next.

00:37:22 I just want to pledge you. And I will never stick on a point if somebody shows me. Data that says

00:37:28 I'm wrong.

00:37:30 I know that's an interpretation people have, but it's absolutely wrong.

00:37:37 And evidence driven. I think the concern is how persuadable people are. But let me go on. Because I  
00:37:41 have limited time, I'm going to hold myself to the same five. Minutes.

00:37:45 Yesterday, Senator Bennett and Finance ask you if you had once previously made statements that Lyme  
00:37:50 disease was created as a military bioweapon. And you said. You may have said that once. Do you still  
00:37:55 believe that Lyme disease was created as a military bioweapon? I've never believed that. Senator,  
00:38:01 what I said is.  
00:38:04 That we should always follow the evidence.  
00:38:08 There were three books suggesting that I have not read them through. What I've said is we should  
00:38:13 always follow evidence, no matter what it says.  
00:38:16 I never have said that definitively. Lyme disease was created in a bio lab, okay?  
00:38:22 Next again, this will be kind of a yes or no, do you. Commit that you will revise any CDC  
00:38:29 recommendations.  
00:38:31 Only based on peer review. Consensus based, widely accepted science. In other words, not personal  
00:38:37 beliefs are the beliefs of any single person that you or your department may identify.  
00:38:43 Absolutely, senator. I am not going to go into hhs.  
00:38:48 And impose my preordained opinions on anybody at HHS. I'm going to empower the scientists at HHS to  
00:38:57 do their job and make sure that we have good science. There's evidence based that's replicatable.  
00:39:04 Where? The raw data is almost out of time. So let me get to another question, all right? Do you  
00:39:10 promise that FDA will not deprioritize our delay review and our approval of new vaccines and that  
00:39:17 vaccine review standards will not change from historical norms. We will have the best vaccine  
00:39:22 standards with safety studies.  
00:39:26 That's a little bit of a different answer than the question I ask.  
00:39:30 Because what is the best could be in the eyes of the beholder. So let me read. Again promise that  
00:39:36 the f day will not deprioritize our delay review and our approval of new vaccines and that vaccine  
00:39:42 review standards will not change from historical norms.  
00:39:46 Yes. Great. With that, I will set a good example and I yield my time.



00:39:52 To thank you member thank you, Chairman Cassidy. And I'm going to do what I very rarely do is

00:39:57 actually follow up on a question from Senator Cassidy.

00:40:03 There have been, as I understand, dozens of studies done all over the world.

00:40:09 That make it very clear. That vaccines do not cause autism. Now, you've just said, if I heard

00:40:16 correctly. Well, if. The evidence is there.

00:40:19 The evidence is there.

00:40:22 That's it. Vaccines.

00:40:25 Do not cause autism.

00:40:28 Do you agree with that? As I said, I'm not going to go into HHS. With any preordained. I asked you a

00:40:34 simple question, Bobby.

00:40:37 Studies all over the world say it does not. What do you think, senator? If you show me those.

00:40:43 I will. Absolutely. As I promised you, Chairman Cassay, I will. That is a very troubling. Response

00:40:49 because the studies are there. Your job is to have looked at those studies as an applicant for this

00:40:54 job. All right, let me ask you another question about this one, about Covid.

00:41:00 Scientists with the School of Public Health and University of Maryland have estimated that the Covid

00:41:06 vaccine saved 3 million lives and prevented 18 million. Hospitalizations. President Trump someone

00:41:13 who I do not often agree with. Has said that the Covid vaccine was, quote, one of the greatest

00:41:19 miracles of the ages that's Donald Trump.

00:41:24 But, Bob, you had a very different perspective at a time when thousands of Americans were dying from

00:41:29 Covid, every week in May of 2021, you petitioned the Putin Drug Administration to revoke the

00:41:35 emergency use of Covid vaccines.

00:41:39 So my question to you is.

00:41:43 Were the scientists who told us that the Covid vaccine was imperative.

00:41:48 And President Trump who told us that it was this great thing.

00:41:52 Where they write. Or were you right?

00:41:55 When you told people.

00:41:58 That. They should not take Covid shots. Senator, I filed that lawsuit after CDC recommended the

00:42:07 vaccine for six year old children without any evidence that it would benefit them and without

00:42:12 testing on six year old children, and that was my reason for.

00:42:17 Filing that lawsuit was the vaccine Covid vaccine, successful in saving millions of lives.

00:42:23 I don't know. We don't have a good surveillance system. Unfortunately, we don't. Know. I don't think

00:42:28 anybody can say that. If you show science, that shows Bobby. If I show you you're applying for the

00:42:35 job, I mean, clearly.

00:42:38 You should know this. And that is, the scientific community has established that that Covid vaccine

00:42:44 saved millions of lives and you're casting down. That is really problematic. All right, let me ask.

00:42:49 You another question. On another subject.

00:42:59 My republican colleagues and President Trump.

00:43:02 Are moving toward making massive cuts into Medicaid in order to provide tax breaks for the

00:43:08 wealthiest people in this country.

00:43:11 As I sure you know, Medicaid provides health insurance to tens of millions of children.

00:43:17 Provides the funding for two out of every three seniors in nursing homes. It provides. 43% of the

00:43:23 revenue for community health center is something I feel very strongly about.

00:43:27 And it is so important for millions of people.

00:43:31 If confirmed in terms of making America healthy again.

00:43:37 Will you stand up to the White House and say, no, we cannot throw millions of children off? Of

00:43:42 healthcare. Millions of elderly people out of nursing homes. We cannot cut Medicaid to give tax

00:43:48 breaks to billionaires. President Trump has made no indication to me.

00:43:54 Addie intends to throw millions of people out of nursing home or deprive people of their health

00:43:59 care, senator.

00:44:02 If a health care system that's broken, it's not working. You've been working on it your entire

00:44:06 career as Americans, less and less healthier as premiums grow, Bobby.

00:44:12 The healthcare system is broken. To fix it.

00:44:17 American people.

00:44:19 But my colleague Kia, certainly in the House of Representatives, are prepared to make massive cuts

00:44:26 in Medicaid. Now, I happen to believe in a Medicare hawaiian system guarantees health care at all

00:44:30 people. Not what we're talking about.

00:44:33 But in fact, there is serious discussion of massive cuts to Medicaid, which will have devastating

00:44:38 halts on children, people in nursing. All I am asking you, if that proposal goes through, will you

00:44:43 say? Hey, you're not making keeping America healthy by throwing children off of health care.

00:44:48 Senator. I haven't seen any of the congressional proposals. I can only tell you what, president.

00:44:52 Trump. Has told me, which is that he wants me to make.

00:44:58 Medicare and Obamacare better. Well, if you haven't seen those proposals, suggest you go to any

00:45:03 newspaper. They're there. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Senator Paul.

00:45:08 I think the discussion over vaccines is so oversimplified and dumbed down that we never really get

00:45:15 to real truths. And it's why people up here are so separated from. Real people at home. So we talk

00:45:21 about hepatitis B. It's a terrible disease. It could lead to liver failures, the chairman said. But

00:45:26 the reason you have distrust from people at home. Why? They don't believe anything you say. They

00:45:30 don't believe governed at all. Is you're telling my kid to take a hepatitis b vaccine when he's one

00:45:35 day? Old. You get it through drug use and sexually transmitted. That's how you get hepatitis B. But

00:45:41 you're telling me my kid has to take it at one day old? You're? Not. That's not science. And so

00:45:47 every person with a bit of common sense. Even people who don't resist vaccines. I vaccinated all my

00:45:52 kids. I believe vaccines. Are one of the modern miracles beyond all pail. The Speckled Monster is a

00:45:58 great book. About the introduction of the smallpox vaccine in 1720 into our country. All miracles,

00:46:05 but I'm not a one size fits all. It's not all or nothing I chose to wait on. My. Hepatitis B

00:46:10 vaccine, and we did it when they went to school. Does that make me an awful person. Does that make

00:46:13 me an anti vaxxer? Because I questioned the government dictate? Of whether I do it. And I'm not

00:46:19 speaking for anybody else. I'm only. Speaking for myself. But for goodness sakes, let's have an

00:46:23 honest debate about these things. The Covid vaccine, if you ask me my opinion, there were reporters

00:46:28 run up and down the soil and they say, You still anti  
vaccine? No, I'm pro vaccine, but on the Covid  
00:46:33 vaccine and on the Covid illness, there was a thousand  
fold or more difference between the elderly  
00:46:39 and children. If you don't acknowledge that you're  
committing malpractice.  
00:46:44 You're showing your ignorance. If you say a six month old  
must be mandated to get it. The science is  
00:46:49 not there. So all this blather about the science as this  
and. The science is that. No, it doesn't.  
00:46:55 The science actually shows that no healthy child in  
America died from Covid. Look it up. No. Healthy  
00:47:01 child died from Covid. And so the thing is that it's 1000  
fold greater. So if you ask me my advice  
00:47:07 as a physician, if you were 65 or older or overweight in  
some other conditions, I would have said,  
00:47:13 hell yes, I'd take the Covid. Vaccine the. Risks of the  
disease were real and much greater than the  
00:47:17 vaccine. But if you ask me, should my healthy six month  
old. Get it? See, these are the nuances  
00:47:23 you're unwilling to talk about because there's such a  
belief in submission. Submit to the  
00:47:28 government. Do what you're told there is no discussion.  
There ought to be a debate. You're not  
00:47:32 going. To let him have the debate because you're going to  
criticize and say it is. This. And admit  
00:47:36 to it or we're not going to appoint you. But it's more  
complicated than that. And this is why people  
00:47:41 distrust government, because you're unwilling to have  
these. Conversations and go home. Ask your  
00:47:46 Democrat young mothers, your republican young mothers if  
they're vaccinating their kid for hepatitis  
00:47:50 B, and they're like, well, do I have to? Do it on day one  
is this precious little baby. Is there  
00:47:55 science to say? You shouldn't do it. Probably not. But  
it's my kid.  
00:48:01 There isn't clear cut science saying not to, but on  
autism. There's no good science of anything to  
00:48:07 show what causes autism. We don't know. It's a profound  
disease. I know many moms here and dads who  
00:48:12 have kids. With autism. I know them personally. I've met  
their kids. But the thing is. They saw  
00:48:18 their kids developing completely normal. Maybe speaking  
100 words go to no words at about 15. Months

00:48:24 of age now. There isn't proof. There isn't proof that the  
vaccines cause it. That's true. There  
00:48:28 isn't proof that it caused it. But we don't. Know what  
causes it yet. So shouldn't we be at least  
00:48:32 open minded? We take 72 vaccines. Could it be? I don't  
know, but. We shouldn't just close the door  
00:48:38 and say we're no longer because we believe. So much in  
submission, we're not going to have an open  
00:48:42 mind to study these things. And so it's sort of this crazy  
notion, schizophrenia, I would put in the  
00:48:48 same notion. You have a kid who's completely normal to 18  
or 19 and their brain goes haywire. How  
00:48:55 does that happen? It's the most bizarre disease.  
Shouldn't. We be open? Could it be our food?  
00:49:01 It might be vaccines, it might be our food, but autism is  
more common. I don't. Know about the  
00:49:05 schizophrenia statistics, but autism is more common.  
Shouldn't we want to be open? Minded. Instead,  
00:49:09 we're so close minded and we're so consensus driven that  
the science says this? Well, science  
00:49:15 doesn't say anything. Science is a dispute. And ten years  
from now, we could all be wrong.  
00:49:21 We were told in the beginning, 20 years ago, they did this  
enormous study, and they said everybody  
00:49:25 over 50 should take an aspirin, I thought, well, it's a  
pretty good idea. It makes sense. But you  
00:49:29 know what? 20 years later, they measured it and they found  
if you had no heart disease, and you were  
00:49:34 taking aspirin, your chance of dying from a brain. Bleed  
or from a stomach bleed were greater than  
00:49:39 the risk of heart disease. You have heart disease? They  
still say take an aspirin. If you don't,  
00:49:43 they've changed their mind 20 years later. But would you  
have all said I was crazy and I should no  
00:49:47 longer be in public discourse. If I had said 20 years ago  
I don't feel like taking an aspirin. I  
00:49:51 ride my bike all the time. I'm afraid it might hit. My  
head. But that's what country is about. It's  
00:49:56 what dissent is about, so. Just ask you to look at the  
larger picture and give the. Guy a break. Who  
00:50:01 says I just want to follow the science where it leads  
without presupposition. I think really what we  
00:50:06 have up here is presupposition. You've already concluded  
it's absolute that autism isn't caused by

00:50:12 it. We don't. Know what causes autism, so we should be  
more humble than what we say. Sorry, I  
00:50:17 didn't. Get to a question.  
00:50:23 For the record. For the record. If a child is born to a  
hepatitis B mother, that child may have a  
00:50:29 95% chance of becoming a chronic carrier.  
00:50:33 And we vaccinate those people and nobody's against that.  
But that's a very small percentage of red  
00:50:38 herring. That is not what we're talking about? 99.9% of  
kids don't have a hepatitis b mom and could  
00:50:44 they wait a while. Could they get vaccinated three months  
or a year? Yes. So again. For the record.  
00:50:50 If the mother's hepatitis B status is known, then that can  
be delayed. The problem is oftentimes, or  
00:50:57 at least a significant percentage of the time, the  
mother's status is not known if she's hepatitis B  
00:51:03 positive. A vaccine on day one of life prevents chronic  
hepatitis B 95% of the time. So it really  
00:51:11 depends upon the mother's. The knowledge of the mother's  
hepatitis B. Status. And when they used to  
00:51:16 do just. Okay, we know the mother, status or not. There's  
mothers that snuck through. Their status  
00:51:22 was unknown. We can blame the obese, but. Marshall. But  
for the record,  
00:51:29 There is an absolute rationale for that. But you're right.  
If the mother status is definitively  
00:51:33 known that it can be safely delayed.  
00:51:37 So now, Senator Murray.  
00:51:40 Thank you, Mr. Chairman. HHS has really broad and critical  
responsibilities to protect and preserve  
00:51:47 health care. And.  
00:51:49 Social services, from women's health to childcare to  
biomedical research. That's just a few. In  
00:51:56 light of last night's tragedy, I do want to express my  
thoughts and prayers. But it is, I think, a  
00:52:02 painful reminder to all of us that we need competent  
people running our federal agencies to respond  
00:52:09 when. A crisis strikes.  
00:52:13 Mr. Kenny let me start by talking about vaccines. I think  
we all agree that cancer is particularly  
00:52:18 nefarious chronic disease. And the American Cancer Society  
reported earlier this month that women  
00:52:24 under 50 are experiencing a dramatic increase in the  
incidence of that disease. Fortunately, there

00:52:30 is clear. Data showing that the HPV vaccine has saved lives and cut cervical cancer rates

00:52:37 dramatically. You have called the HPV vaccine, quote, dangerous and effective, and said it actually

00:52:46 increases the risk. Of cervical cancer. Do you stand by those statements, yes or no?

00:52:53 The hpv vaccine.

00:52:57 I brought litigation. I represented.

00:52:59 By your statement.

00:53:03 Let me answer. Yes or no. It's a simple yes or no. Stand by your previous statement. I litigated on

00:53:09 that issue.

00:53:11 I represented hundreds of young girls who felt that they were injured by the vaccine.

00:53:18 That trial is happening right now in Los Angeles. Well, those questions will be answered by a jury.

00:53:24 At trial, you said that no loving parents would allow their daughter to receive that vaccine if

00:53:30 confirmed. As HHS secretary, would you recommend that parents get their children vaccinated against.

00:53:36 I recommend that children follow the CDC schedule.

00:53:41 And I will support the CDC schedule when I get in there.

00:53:45 If I'm fortunate enough to be confirmed, would you recommend the parents get their children

00:53:49 vaccinated? Against the measles. Yes or no? Against measles? Yes. Well this remind everybody that

00:53:58 parents look to our health leaders for advice on these decisions. You would be a health leader. And

00:54:02 for the record, I would like to put into the record his previous statements on these vaccines.

00:54:09 I do want to ask you a question about character. I still believe character matters, and I want to

00:54:14 let you respond to this. You were accused of sexual harassment and assault by Eliza Cooney. Who was

00:54:20 first hired as a part time babysitter by your family when you were confronted about this accusation.

00:54:25 You said you were, quote, not a church boy, and that. You, quote, have so many skeletons in my

00:54:30 closet. You then texted Miss Cooney an apology and indicated you had no memory of what she

00:54:35 described. Mr. Kennedy, I'm asking you to respond to those accusations seriously in front of this

00:54:42 committee. Did you make sexual advantages towards Ms. Cooney without her consent? No, I did not. And

00:54:47 that story has been debunked. But why did you apologize to her, then? I apologize for something

00:54:53 else.

00:54:57 Well, that's not my understanding. Let me just ask. All you have to read is the text which she

00:55:02 published is not for. That. That is not how I've read it. Are there any other instances where you

00:55:07 have made sexual advances towards an individual without their consent. Just yes or no? No.

00:55:15 Mr Kennedy.

00:55:19 You said that you're going to say to NIH scientist. God bless you all. Thank you for your public

00:55:23 service. We're going to give infectious disease a break for eight years. Excuse me? You said. You

00:55:30 just said thank you for your service to our federal employees. You want to give infectious disease a

00:55:35 break. That's a quote.

00:55:37 Will you support the development and distribution of vaccines for the avian flu? Yes or no?

00:55:42 Well for the avian flu, yes.

00:55:47 My time is almost up, but having read a lot and listened a lot, I just want to remind all my

00:55:53 colleagues that by voting to confirm Mr. Kennedy, we would be telling our constituents he's worth

00:55:58 listening to.

00:56:00 That alone could get people killed. Before even lifts a finger because he does not even need the

00:56:06 levers of power. To influence people. As we saw in Samoa. All he needs is a megaphone to affirm his

00:56:13 views by voting to confirm him as our highest health official. We should not miss words about what

00:56:19 that would mean when babies die from whoopi cough. Because parents weren't sure if the vaccine was

00:56:24 safe. We will have to look them in. The eye when measles sweeps through school, then hospitals,

00:56:29 nursing boards. Will this be worth it? There are political realities, we all get that. But there's

00:56:35 also right and wrong, fact and. Fiction and. There's also people staying healthy or dying

00:56:41 pointlessly from diseases we can prevent because they thought Congress took its job vetting our

00:56:46 healthcare secretary seriously. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We're going to now go out of order. We're

00:56:51 going to go to Senator Marshall. He would like to be able to view the press conference regarding the



00:56:56 tragedy on the plane. From Wichita, Senator Marshall.  
Well, thank you, Mr. Chairman. And thank you,  
00:57:02 Mr. Kennedy, for your kind words. This morning.  
00:57:05 For your carrying text last night, and I'm grateful for  
all my colleagues, most everybody reaching  
00:57:11 out to us. And.  
00:57:15 Certainly it's a tough day for Kansas and many others who  
lost loved ones.  
00:57:21 And we will look forward meeting with the president later  
today and those loved ones and just want  
00:57:26 everyone back home to know that we're wrapping our arms  
around them, that we're mourning with them,  
00:57:31 and we'll get through this together. So thank you.  
00:57:36 Mr. Kennedy, take a second and just describe. Wifiing.  
Chronic disease is so important to you. Who  
00:57:43 are we fighting for?  
00:57:46 What is your role as HHS secretarian? Is there anything  
that's a bigger priority? To you than this.  
00:57:52 Role. Thank you, senator.  
00:57:55 When I was a ten year old boy, my uncle was in the White  
House. The chronic disease. Among american  
00:57:59 children was 2%. Today it's 66%.  
00:58:05 The cost of chronic disease to our country when my uncle  
was present was zero.  
00:58:12 There were not even treatments for chronic disease at that  
time. The cost is four point.  
00:58:20 Three.  
00:58:22 \$5 trillion. Is bankrupting our country.  
00:58:28 77% of american kids can't qualify for military service.  
00:58:32 38% of teens, according to NIH's last report, which was  
three weeks ago, 38% are diabetic or pre  
00:58:40 diabetic.  
00:58:42 When my uncle's president, the typical pediatrician with  
under two cases of diabetes in his lifetime  
00:58:47 juvenile.  
00:58:49 It's more than a third of the kids who walk through his  
door or her door.  
00:58:55 Pre diabetic.  
00:58:58 Autism rates have gone from one in 10,000 or one in 1501  
in 10,000 depending on what study you look  
00:59:04 at in my generation. Is it 70 year old men today?  
00:59:09 Our children is one in 34.  
00:59:12 The explosion.  
00:59:15 I had eleven ziddlings. Dozens of first cousins. Mr.  
Kennedy, I'm sorry.

00:59:22 Who are we?

00:59:23 What's your role as HHS secretary? To fight that disease? There's never been an age secretary who

00:59:30 came in to do this. It was all about.

00:59:34 The typical partisan debate about how we allocate the cause, whether insurers pay it or whether

00:59:41 hospitals, providers or families pay it and the cost continue to rise. All the things we're debating

00:59:47 on. Our kids are getting sicker and sicker.

00:59:51 Just to quote you from yesterday, it's like we're moving the chairs on the Titanic.

00:59:56 The ship is sinking. And nobody's paying attention to it. And yesterday.

01:00:02 I got question after question from the Democrats.

01:00:07 About measles in 1963, the year before.

01:00:11 The measles epidemic or the measles vaccine was introduced. 500 american kids died from is almost

01:00:17 all of them extremely poor and malnourished. We have 252,000,000 Americans who are suffering from

01:00:25 chronic disease, and none of them are mentioned diabetes.

01:00:30 Mentioned heart disease. They didn't mention cancers yesterday. We need to refocus if we're going to

01:00:37 save our country.

01:00:39 This is existential. Our country is not going to be destroyed because we get the marginal tax. Rate

01:00:44 wrong. It is going to be destroyed if we got this issue wrong. And I am in a unique position to be

01:00:51 able. To stop this epidemic, Mr. Kennedy. I want to just contribute as one of the three positions on

01:00:58 here, and even as I listen to my friends across the aisle.

01:01:02 My conclusion is that we have to guard the physician patient relationship and give those parents of

01:01:09 these kids the information. All three of us are going to disagree on exactly who it should and

01:01:14 shouldn't. Get a particular vaccine. We all recognize the incredible successes of different vaccines

01:01:20 as well. But we have to give the american public the best information, non biased information, and

01:01:28 I'd love to get you to respond that, but I have an important question for folks back home. This will

01:01:32 be my last question. I've never seen a person whose words written and spoken have. Been so

01:01:36 misattributed, exaggerated, sensationalized and taken out of context. Were you to speak to my

01:01:42 farmers and ranchers back home. And tell me about.

01:01:47 Your. Where do they fit in this role of Maha and how we're going to work with them and just your  
01:01:52 compassion towards these farmers and ranchers.  
01:01:56 Maha will not succeed without the cooperation. And partnership of agricultural producers of farmers  
01:02:02 and ranchers across this country.  
01:02:05 I was a four h kid. I grew up working on ranches.  
01:02:10 And. I've worked for years representing farmers.  
01:02:14 In various forms of litigation.  
01:02:17 Thomas Jefferson said,  
01:02:19 That american democracy is rooted in tens of thousands of independent freeholds owned by farmers. We  
01:02:24 are losing farmers today, and we can't afford to lose a single farmer.  
01:02:29 And on my watch. I do not want to lose a single farmer. We have to offer farmers. An off ramp from  
01:02:37 chemically intensive agriculture, which they don't want to do, which even the chemical industry is  
01:02:42 ready to change.  
01:02:47 So that they can grow crops that they can sell in Europe. They can grow crops, Senator hall. He told  
01:02:52 me during our meeting at four out of his, five of his brother in laws have Parkinson's. There's  
01:02:59 illness all over the farm community, and it's undoubtedly related. To the intensity of. Chemical  
01:03:05 pesticides, Mr. Kennedy, we need to reduce that, but I'm not going to do anything coerce if I'm at  
01:03:10 President Trump?  
01:03:12 Was the best president in modern american history for the american farmer.  
01:03:17 A first one to see farm prices go up. He has instructed me to take care of the farmers and make sure  
01:03:22 they're full partners.  
01:03:25 Thank you, Senator Bolden. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
01:03:31 Mr. Kennedy, I've been listening to the back and forth in questions, and when people have tried to  
01:03:35 pin you down. You have said. Can you speak up, Senator Baldwin? Yes, I've been listening to the back  
01:03:41 and forth, the questions. And when people tried to pin you down on a point. You said, show me the  
01:03:45 data or bring me the studies.  
01:03:49 And I want to suggest that that data is out there and those studies are out there, and if you're  
01:03:53 going to review all the studies and the data, you're going to be doing?

01:03:57 That it's confirmed for your first year.

01:04:01 Of being secretary.

01:04:06 When we talked. We were talking a bit about vaccines at the end of our meeting, and you said really

01:04:10 to me that there's no post approval safety monitoring, and that led me to believe that you're not

01:04:16 aware of the significant and ongoing safety monitoring that occurs after years of rigorous studies.

01:04:23 Showing vaccines to be safe and effective. So I want to give you. The opportunity to set the record

01:04:28 straight here. Are you aware of the measures in place? Throughout health and human services to

01:04:33 ensure vaccine safety after approval. Yes or no?

01:04:38 I'm aware of the system. Which CDC admits it captures fewer than 1% of vaccine. Injuries. So you are

01:04:46 aware of.

01:04:48 Monitoring. Are you aware of the FDA post approval monitoring?

01:04:53 I'm aware of only two systems. Are you aware of the vaccine safety data link? Oh. Yeah, I'm very

01:04:59 aware of that. Are you aware of the vaccine adverse event reporting system? I'm aware of the vaccine

01:05:04 safety data length that CDC keeps under lock blocks and will not let independent scientists. Are you

01:05:10 aware of the clinical immunization sa. Safety assessment project. As I said,

01:05:16 Are you aware of Vsafe? I'm aware that they're broken, and I can explain to you how each one of

01:05:22 those is broken, if you're interested.

01:05:25 What I want to do is make sure we have gold standard science. We get the conflicts off. The panels

01:05:31 so that people.

01:05:33 Is Congress. What I listed right now are just some of the guardrails that are in place to ensure

01:05:39 that life saving vaccines are safe and effective. And this is after numerous clinical trials.

01:05:46 Rigorous studies and review by an independent panel of experts that show vaccine. Vaccines are safe

01:05:53 and effective, which is available to all the public. If you want to take a second look at the

01:05:59 science, like you have said. Well, it's here, it's available. And it's conclusive. And saying

01:06:06 anything else is undermining vaccines to a different and by the way, repeating what Congress found

01:06:12 in. The 2003 investigation. Kennedy I want to move to what I hope it will be pretty simple stuff. In

01:06:19 general. For a drug to be considered safe, would you say that?

01:06:24 97 98% of people taking that drug and having no complications is generally safe.

01:06:31 It would completely depend on what the drug is. If it's a drug given to a healthy population that

01:06:37 would not be again.

01:06:39 This is as high a level as it gets. Would you say that when 99 out of 100 people experience minimal

01:06:45 or no complications that that drug is safe. It depends what the risk is from. The disease? It

01:06:51 depends what the benefit from the drug is. If you're dying of cancer. You will take a drug with that

01:06:57 kind of risk profile. And if we were to.

01:07:02 If you're a healthy individual.

01:07:04 I'm talking about methyristone. But if we were to talk about peer reviewed. Replicable studies of a

01:07:11 medication. Would you say that you needed ten trusted studies to get the same conclusion. It

01:07:17 depends. What? The 20 trusted studies. It depends.

01:07:22 What's your number? It completely depends on the kind of study you're talking about. Randomized

01:07:26 studies or observational. Studies. Is it safe to assume that 100 studies that are replicable and

01:07:31 peer reviewed is enough.

01:07:34 It could be one study, if it was a powerful enough study. The most widely used medication, abortion.

01:07:40 Drug MIFA pristine has been FDA approved for nearly 25 years. More than 100 studies have confirmed

01:07:48 that 99% of patients who took the abortion pill had no complications. So with all of that, I can

01:07:56 only conclude that you would commit to keep this science backed. And proven medication on the

01:08:02 market. And accessible for women. Is that correct?

01:08:08 President Trump has not chosen a policy.

01:08:12 And I will implement his policy.

01:08:17 So regardless. Of the studies, regardless of the data, regardless of the science you've been talking

01:08:24 about, show me the data, show me the studies.

01:08:28 Would have that policy regardless of what the science said.

01:08:34 The devil is the details. If you're telling me 99% of women did okay, but. 1% died. I would say that

01:08:40 is not.

01:08:42 A beneficial risk profile, studies show. I know, but you're not showing me. I need those. Details

01:08:47 from this study before I can't buy a pig and a poke. Show me what? The study says let's move on.

01:08:55 Next it would be Senator Mullen.

01:08:59 Thank you, Mr. Kennedy, for being here.

01:09:03 We have, fortunately. Been able to form quite a friendship over the last year, and I appreciate it.

01:09:10 Appreciate the in depth conversations we've had. And I just want to point out. I don't understand

01:09:16 why my colleagues all of a sudden say we can't question. Science.

01:09:20 It absolutely blows my mind that all of a sudden.

01:09:24 It's such shame that Bobby sitting up here, he's question science because I guarantee you. If he was

01:09:29 sitting here and he was going to be the secretary of HHS underneath the former President Biden,

01:09:34 which I enjoy saying. Former president.

01:09:36 I would bet you that you guys would have his back 100% and enjoy the fact that he's questioning

01:09:40 science and would probably support his positions 100%, but because he's now on the republican side.

01:09:45 You guys went way off the rail. And how dare he questioned science. My God. If we didn't question

01:09:52 science, where would we be today?

01:09:55 We've always questioned science. Science is always involved in. Nobody's changing. Have a glass. Of

01:09:59 wine a day. It's healthy for you. Don't have a glass of wine. A day. Have a piece of chocolate day

01:10:03 itself before you. Black, dark chocolate is healthy for you. Take an aspirin a day at Senator Rand

01:10:08 Paul pulled out. I mean, where would we be today if we didn't ever question science. But I will say

01:10:13 there's an issue that I have as. A father of six that when my kids come out from getting their

01:10:17 vaccines, they look like a freaking pin cushion.

01:10:20 I mean, 72 vaccinations. I think there's a reason we should be questioning. This.

01:10:26 When you start looking at the rise of autism. Why wouldn't we be looking at everything? Who wouldn't

01:10:32 want to look at everything? Give me anybody in this room. Does it know somebody that you're

01:10:37 personally connected to, that one of their children doesn't suffer from some severity of autism.

01:10:44 Give me one.

01:10:46 And you guys are all saying that Bobby can't question it.

01:10:51 I don't get it, guys. I don't understand your point. Other than the fact you just opposed him

01:10:55 because he supports a president that you guys don't like now.

01:10:59 I applaud him for going into the situation and saying less question something.

01:11:04 The definition of insanity is doing the same thing, expecting different results.

01:11:12 Is it not true that you're supposed to question science? Is anybody going to question the fact that

01:11:17 that's not true.

01:11:20 Share the numbers again with me about autism. Where they at when you as a child to where they're at

01:11:25 today is my kids are children. There weren't a lot of studies. When I was a kid, but the best

01:11:29 studies.

01:11:31 And really. The only studies out there. There are two studies.

01:11:37 One shows.

01:11:39 A rate of about one in 10,000. Another about one in 1500.

01:11:44 There are other estimates in between. Today.

01:11:50 Every 36 kids, according to CDC. I want to say one other thing.

01:11:57 Relevant to what? The point you just made in 1963.

01:12:02 My uncle awarded John F. Kennedy the highest civilian honor. Francis Kelsey. Francis Kelsey was a

01:12:09 young scientist. At NIH, who came in and objected to the panel having approved thalidomide for

01:12:17 american children.

01:12:19 All the sciences of that day. They were doing it in Europe.

01:12:23 All the sciences. And the scientific panels that work for the agency approved greenlighted

01:12:28 thalidomide. She stood up and screamed and fought and risked her job and risked her reputation, and

01:12:35 she blocked it. In our country three years later. Everybody knew that, recognized that she was a

01:12:42 hero and a savior of our children because we were not getting the kind of terrible diabolical

01:12:48 deformities.

01:12:50 As they were experiencing in Europe. My uncle gave it the highest civilian honor because she

01:12:55 questioned science and was courageous enough to stand. Up and say, I don't care what happens to me.

01:13:02 This cannot happen. Irony is that she was a Democrat that time and she questioned science. But now

01:13:07 all of a sudden, because you're working for Republicans. You're not allowed to question science.

01:13:11 Let's go back. To this and say, One. Let's just use a number of one in 10,000 at your age now. We're

01:13:16 a little bit different in age. I'm not going to say how old. You are, but you look great for your

01:13:20 age.

01:13:23 I will say that one in 36.

01:13:26 That's not a pandemic. Then what is?

01:13:30 One in 36, and it used to be one in 10,000.

01:13:35 Have autism now.

01:13:36 Can any of you guys with the straight face say that we shouldn't look at every aspect to what we're

01:13:41 putting in our kids, be it from the food to the vaccines.

01:13:46 One in 36. That scares the living daylights out of me. Six kids, I could have 36. Grandkids.

01:13:55 I'm just doing the math.

01:13:58 I'm the youngest of seven. My family seems to be pretty active in that area.

01:14:05 I'm not necessarily trying to be funny, but I'm being very serious. Guys, we should support the fact

01:14:09 that Bobby's question it. He's not saying he's against it. He's saying he's going to question it and

01:14:14 let the studies follow. Where they will. And God bless you for doing that. Thank you. Thank you,

01:14:19 senator.

01:14:23 Senator Kane. Thank you, Mr. Chair. And congratulations on your nomination, Mr. Kennedy. I enjoyed

01:14:29 our conversation. Thank you for starting off today. Acknowledging the pain felt by people in this

01:14:35 region. From this horrible air tragedy last night. Senator Marshall and Senator Moran, a lot of

01:14:41 folks from Kansas, a lot of folks from Virginia, DC. Maryland, but also.

01:14:46 When that passenger list comes out and when the three soldiers names are revealed, every office here

01:14:52 is going to have some connection to them because you have your staffs who live here, and we kind of

01:14:56 dread seeing that list of names. I drove to the airport at 630 this morning and went across the



01:15:02 bridge over the Potomac and saw the operation, the  
recovery. Operation kind of underway in daylight  
01:15:09 hours. And I thought about. The last big aviation disaster  
in Richmond when on 911, a plane slammed  
01:15:16 into the Pentagon and Virginia. Got hurt very bad that  
day, and so did the nation.  
01:15:22 Just a couple of months ago, you posted this on your ex  
account.  
01:15:30 On 911. It's hard to tell.  
01:15:34 What is conspiracy theory and what isn't? I'd like to  
introduce that for the record, Mr. Chair.  
01:15:43 We take that kind of stuff pretty personally.  
01:15:46 Virginians know what happened on 911.  
01:15:50 We don't need folks given oxygen.  
01:15:53 To conspiracy theories about 911. Now, one thing I noticed  
about this post is it was in July. Of  
01:15:59 2024. It was 23 years after.  
01:16:03 911. You had a lot going on in your life. You were running  
for president then. What made you decide,  
01:16:09 in the midst of everything going on in this country, in  
this world, in July of 2024 in your own  
01:16:13 candidacy for president, that now was the time to say it's  
hard to tell what is conspiracy and what  
01:16:20 isn't about 911.  
01:16:23 What was so important about making this point in July of  
2024, Senator, the dramatic drop in trust  
01:16:30 in our government. And this is particularly one of the  
templates of that is what happened. At CDC.  
01:16:36 Yeah. No.  
01:16:38 I want to move aside from that. Because you say, you go on  
to say,  
01:16:44 I won't take sides.  
01:16:47 As president, I won't take. Sides on 911. Wow.  
01:16:53 I won't take sides on 911. Let me ask you this as a  
general matter. Do you find?  
01:17:02 It. Hard to tell what is a conspiracy theory and what  
isn't.  
01:17:09 Is that kind of a general deficit that you find in your  
own analytical abilities?  
01:17:15 My father told me. When I was 13 years old. He said people  
in authority lie and that the job of a  
01:17:23 citizen. In every democracy is to.  
01:17:28 Obtain a fierce skepticism. Okay? Government authority.  
And you're an authority. And you're an

01:17:33 authority, but you wouldn't. Take sides on 911 and you're admitting.

01:17:38 I have a hard time telling what is a conspiracy theory and what isn't. Senator, I haven't

01:17:43 investigated it. If the things that I investigate, I take sides on people are allowed. To hold that

01:17:48 opinion. I'm not going to tell them. They're crazy for holding that opinion. I'm. Going to say, what

01:17:53 is your evidence? And if I hear the evidence, I'm going to say that doesn't make any sense. So you

01:17:57 won't take sides on 911? Wow.

01:18:02 Senator Murray asked you some questions about Gardasil.

01:18:06 And this is a vaccine that's manufactured in Virginia. There's other hpv vaccines. I'm going to

01:18:11 enter into the record a whole series of studies from many, many nations. That. Talk about the

01:18:16 dramatic positive effect of Gardasil. Could I introduce those into the record? Mr. Chair, without

01:18:21 objection. Those studies are. Wait.

01:18:25 Let me ask a question. These are studies from Scotland, Sweden, the UK, Australia, the United

01:18:31 states, multiple studies, and then I'm going to introduce.

01:18:36 The record. I guess it's a blog post of yours. The verdict is now, inescapable. Gardasil is killing

01:18:41 girls, and I'd like to introduce that into the record as well. Without objection. You have a pretty

01:18:46 significant financial interest in litigation against Gardasil. You have received contingency fees

01:18:53 and payments for referring people to lawyers. Suing the manufacturer. And in your ethics vetting.

01:18:59 I've never received any money from any guard.

01:19:02 Or any other vaccine. Let me read a quote. This is your words in your ethics vetting for this

01:19:08 nomination. You said, quote, pursuant to the referral agreement, I'm entitled to receive 10% of

01:19:13 fees. Awarded in contingency cases referred to the firm. How can folks who need to have confidence

01:19:20 in federal vaccine programs trust you to be independent and science based when you stand to gain

01:19:26 significant funding if lawsuits against vaccine manufacturers are successful.

01:19:33 I have given away all of my rights to any fees in that lawsuit.

01:19:39 I yield back. Next is Senator Scott. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Ms. Kennedy, good to see you again.

01:19:45 Thank you for being here before the committee.

01:19:48 One of the beauties of our country is we have foundational documents that point us in the right

01:19:51 direction. I think it's the compass that shows us due north. True north. The Declaration of

01:19:56 independence mentions life, liberty in the pursuit of happiness. As unalienable rights. You and I

01:20:01 had a serious conversation about the importance of life and. I'm a pro life Christian, as you know.

01:20:06 And you said that you assured me that. Your deputies were going to be pro life. Is that still the

01:20:11 case?

01:20:13 I will implement President Trump's policies. I serve it as pleasure, but I share president Trump's.

01:20:18 View that every abortion is a tragedy. My question. Are you having deputies within your hhs that

01:20:26 will be pro life?

01:20:29 As I said, I can tell you exactly what I'm going to do. So there's. No mistake.

01:20:34 I'm going to implement President Trump's policies. President Trump has told me he wants to end late

01:20:38 term abortion.

01:20:41 Are you hiring people who are pro life? Yes, I am. Thank you.

01:20:47 During the first Trump administration, HHS began investing in policies to support individuals living

01:20:52 with sickocell. Anemia. This is continued. A career staff person has dedicated time to coordinate

01:20:58 sickle cell disease related activities across HHS and other government agencies where you commit to

01:21:04 continuing to have an individual serve. In this coordinating role for sick assault? Yes.

01:21:10 I worked on sickle cell for many, many years. I told you, I have many friends who have sickle cell.

01:21:17 Several of them. I've seen the suffering that they endure. One out. Of every 365 blacks in our

01:21:23 country.

01:21:25 Has a goal cell. There are now promising gene therapies. They're very expensive.

01:21:32 But it's something that NIH should be enthusiastically supporting that kind of research. Well, you

01:21:37 answered my second question, so that's great. Which was today. You noticed the FDA gene, therapies

01:21:43 are really breakthrough evolutions and science that are really one time cure. So you support the

01:21:50 continuation of the research. That makes that more absolutely.

01:21:56 That's great news. This past fall due to one facility making the majority of our iv drugs in the US.

01:22:03 It was devastated by Hurricane Helene. Hospitals and healthcare facilities across the country faced

01:22:09 iv shortages. Nephron Pharmaceuticals in Columbia, South Carolina, tried to shore up iv support in

01:22:16 south. Carolina hospitals by creating the Palmetto line in its facility to help make ivs for

01:22:22 hospitals. Across the state. We must do more proactively to address the shortages. In the shortage

01:22:29 risks as well as to provide and promote the production of medical products here in the US. If

01:22:33 confirmed, how will you prioritize efforts to prevent and reduce drug shortages, including for

01:22:39 essential medicines.

01:22:42 Including essential medicines.

01:22:45 President trump. Has told me it's his priority to bring essential medicine manufacturing back to

01:22:51 this country. It's a national security threat.

01:22:56 So much of it has been exported abroad, and particularly to China.

01:23:01 And it's a priority for him, so it's a priority for me as well. Very good. Will you commit to

01:23:06 fostering productive public private partnerships that can provide the government with key

01:23:10 information on pharmaceutical supply chains help direct shortages and improve the long term security

01:23:15 and resiliency of the US drug supply. Absolutely, senator. Thank you very much. One of the things.

01:23:22 That we. Study. I had two opportunities to question you once. Yesterday at the finance committee, I

01:23:28 opted as opposed. To seeing you twice. To see you one time and spend my time doing some other things

01:23:34 at that time. But I think it's important for us to recognize that we are in a critical place as a

01:23:39 nation. We're so dependent on other countries for the essentials. From healthcare and beyond.

01:23:46 We ought to work on a strategy of resilience across. This nation and all of the essential areas that

01:23:54 we need to become less dependent on the rest. Of the world and more dependent on ourselves. And I

01:23:58 hope that as your term, as the HHS you will spend a lot of time thinking through.

01:24:05 All the layers and complexity that is under HHS.  
01:24:09 How we become more and more resilient as a nation.  
01:24:13 That's absolutely critical for our national security and  
for our economy. And President Trump is  
01:24:19 doing that through HHS, but also, more importantly,  
through the commerce department.  
01:24:25 And meeting directly with pharmaceutical industry leaders.  
To figure out what kind of incentives  
01:24:31 that they need.  
01:24:33 To bring manufacturing home. Perfect. Thank you, Mr.  
Chairman. Yield back my 8 seconds, and then  
01:24:39 we'll go to Senator Murphy.  
01:24:42 Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Kennedy, thank you  
for joining us here today. Listen.  
01:24:47 Credibility matters so much when you lead the most  
important health agency in the world, the  
01:24:53 secretary of HHS has got to be trusted, that he's telling  
the truth, that he cares about. Science  
01:24:58 has no political agenda.  
01:25:01 Mr. Kenny, I want to go back to some of your testimony  
yesterday before the finance committee.  
01:25:08 When. You either feigned ignorance about some very clear  
statements that you have made in the past.  
01:25:14 Or you outright denied. Saying things about the vaccine  
program that you have undoubtedly. Said. And  
01:25:22 so, with a day's hindsight, I want to give you another  
chance. To be honest about the things that  
01:25:29 you have said.  
01:25:31 Senator Warnock asked you yesterday if you had compared  
America's vaccine program to the catholic  
01:25:38 church's pedophilia scandal. You said. You never said  
that. Now I'm. Not asking you to explain what  
01:25:44 you. I didn't say.  
01:25:47 You didn't say that. Senator.  
01:25:50 The other question.  
01:25:53 That's fine. You're doubling down on that.  
01:25:56 You said Senator Warnock also asked you if you compared  
America's vaccine campaign to the nazi death  
01:26:01 camps and the Holocaust again. You said yesterday. You  
didn't say that. I did. Not say that. Did not  
01:26:07 say that. Senator Bennett asked you yesterday. If you had  
made an allegation that AIDS is a  
01:26:15 different disease in Africa than it is in America. On that  
one, you said you didn't recall having

01:26:22 had a day to think about it. Do you recall? Saying that  
AIDS is a different disease in Africa than  
01:26:30 it is in the United States. I looked up that passage in my  
book.  
01:26:35 And found that indeed.  
01:26:38 A diagnostics for AIDS are very different in Africa than  
in the United States.  
01:26:45 That the list of symptoms is almost completely different.  
01:26:50 I'll submit this for the record. But having denied the  
first two statements, let me just read what  
01:26:56 you said.  
01:26:58 You said in 2013. Is it hyperbole to say that the people  
who run our vaccine program should be in  
01:27:05 jail. They should be in jail.  
01:27:09 To me. This is like nazi death camps. Look at what it does  
to the families who participate in the  
01:27:15 vaccine program. I can't tell why somebody would do  
something like that. I can't. Tell you why  
01:27:19 ordinary Germans participated in the Holocaust.  
01:27:24 I can't tell you what was going on in their minds.  
01:27:29 With respect to the pedophilia scandal, you said.  
01:27:33 The Pedophilia scandal in the Catholic Church is a perfect  
metaphor for what's happening in the  
01:27:38 United States. The vaccine program. It's the same reason  
we had a padophilia scandal in the Catholic  
01:27:44 Church. It's because people were able to convince  
themselves that the institution of the church was  
01:27:48 more important than these little boys and girls who were  
being raped. I don't disagree with Senator  
01:27:54 Mullen. I don't want an HHS secretary. That's not going to  
question science. I think it's important  
01:27:59 to question science. But you're not questioning science.  
You've made up your mind. You have spent.  
01:28:06 Your entire career.  
01:28:09 Undermining America's vaccine program. You make these  
purposeful comparisons.  
01:28:15 To those that are administering the vaccine program to the  
nazi executioners, to the people who  
01:28:22 covered up the catholic church's pedophilia scandal  
because you have made a decision. That there is  
01:28:29 a comparison that. There is evil in the vaccine program as  
there was evil in the pedophilia scandal.  
01:28:37 And the nazi deaf camps. You aren't exploring science. You  
have made up your mind. You've spent your

01:28:43 entire career trying to undermine these programs. The reason that these statements, these incredibly

01:28:49 aggressive, over the top statements matter to us is because. It just isn't believable. That when you

01:28:56 become secretary. You are all of a sudden going to. Be consistent with science. People who have

01:29:03 spent their career saying these kinds of things, running the kinds of campaigns that you have run

01:29:08 don't all of a sudden change their stripes. And so Mr. Chairman, I will submit these statements. Can

01:29:15 I respond to that?

01:29:20 My statement about lecture is almost identical. The findings of the government oversight

01:29:26 Investigation Committee.

01:29:29 And investigated CDC's vaccine program in 2003, Senator Burton was chairman of that committee, and

01:29:36 he said that.

01:29:38 Certain individuals in that program.

01:29:41 Had written off a generation of kids.

01:29:44 Because. Of, quote, misplaced institutional loyalty to CDC and because of entanglements with the

01:29:51 drug company.

01:29:54 Let me finish. What I'm saying. Pedophilia to the administer to the administration of vaccines.

01:30:02 It wasn't pedophilia. Sue was a perfect metaphor. If you have one in 36 kids who is neurological

01:30:08 injuries.

01:30:10 And if that is linked, that's perfectly.

01:30:15 Is it a perfect metaphor? It's not a perfect metaphor, but there's no metaphor. That's perfect. But

01:30:20 I am pro vaccine. I am going to support the vaccine program. I want kids to be healthy, and I'm

01:30:26 coming in here to get rid of the conflicts. Of interest within the agency. To make sure that we have

01:30:31 gold standard, evidence based science. And if you show me where I'm wrong and show me a single

01:30:36 statement I made about science that is erroneous.

01:30:41 Thank you, senator. Holly.

01:30:44 Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Kennedy, welcome. I enjoyed our conversation last month in

01:30:50 our office. And thank you for remembering, as you did again today. My uncles, who we talked about,

01:30:55 Boris and Lauren and Jean, who have recently passed away from Parkinson's, grew up in a farm family.

01:30:59 That was kind of you to remember them, so thank you for that. Let me start by asking. You a question  
01:31:05 about children and the safety of children. President Biden's administration, his hhs issued a rule.  
01:31:12 A rule, so it's binding. Requiring that every doctor in America, including pediatricians who receive  
01:31:18 any kind of federal funding so that's anybody who takes ACA funding. Excuse me. Anybody who takes  
01:31:23 chip funding. This is almost every health provider in America requiring them to conduct gender  
01:31:28 transition and gender so called affirming. Procedures. So that means hormones. That. Means puberty  
01:31:34 blockers. That means surgeries in some cases. They impose that rule on doctors across the country.  
01:31:40 This has been litigated, and it has been actually stopped by a couple of courts who found that it  
01:31:44 was way outside of HHS's. Jurisdiction. My question to you is. Will you rescind this rule that  
01:31:52 imposes this radical policy and talk about being anti science. This radical policy on just about  
01:31:58 every pediatrician in the United States of America. Yes, I will.  
01:32:03 And by the way, at rule is any science.  
01:32:07 The most thorough matter of view on gender affirming care has come out in the cast. Report.  
01:32:15 Which reports really catastrophic impacts on children. And that is science. It's a matter of view of  
01:32:22 all the existing scientific studies.  
01:32:25 But even more just from a common sense, if you're a patient.  
01:32:31 Do you really want somebody performing surgery on you who is morally opposed to that surgery? It  
01:32:38 doesn't make any sense. We need to embrace diversity in this country. Are people who believe that's  
01:32:44 important. I respect them. We should hear them out. We should. Debate. We should have a congenial  
01:32:50 conversation. There are also people who believe that it is an atrocity.  
01:32:57 And they need to be listened to, too. And we need to embrace diversity and make room for diversity  
01:33:02 in this country.  
01:33:04 And not force people to do things that are against their conscience. And let me just point out that  
01:33:08 on this rule. What's particularly pernicious about it is we're talking about.



01:33:13 Gender transition surgeries, gender transition care on  
minor children. This rule purported to  
01:33:17 preempt all state law. So in states like mine and many  
others,  
01:33:22 Where the voters have said. We don't want gender  
transition procedures performed on minors. The  
01:33:27 Biden administration attempted to use federal money and  
force pediatricians to do it anyway, so. I'm  
01:33:32 glad to hear you. Say you'll rescind that rule. I think  
that's terrific for the safety. Of children.  
01:33:35 I would add that we don't let children drink. We don't let  
them drive an automobile because they  
01:33:43 have bad. Judgment. They are flooded with hormones. Their  
brains are still in formation. Their  
01:33:48 sexuality is still in formation. Allow them to make  
judgments about.  
01:33:55 That are going to have life changing forever.  
01:33:59 Implications for the rest of their life at that age is  
unconscious, particularly in light of the Cas  
01:34:06 report. I'm glad to hear you say that. Let me ask you a  
question about NIH. Research. If I may. I  
01:34:10 know this is something that you care a lot about under the  
first. Trump President I do want to add,  
01:34:15 people who have gender differences should be respected.  
They should be loved.  
01:34:20 Loving them.  
01:34:22 Does not. Sometimes love means saying no to people.  
01:34:26 Nih under the first trump presidency.  
01:34:31 Hhs. Stopped Nia. New NIH research that involved human  
fetal tissue from elective abortions. Now you  
01:34:38 were asked about this sort of tangentially yesterday by  
Senator Cantwell and I. Want to get your  
01:34:41 quote right. You said to her correctly, you said, stem  
cell research today can be done on umbilical  
01:34:46 cords, and you don't need any fetal tissue, which is.  
Correct. My question to you is, will you  
01:34:50 reinstate. President Trump's policy that ensures that no  
federal research and no federal tax dollars  
01:34:57 is conducted on fetal tissue taken from elective abortion?  
Yes. Fantastic. Let me ask you just about  
01:35:02 title ten. You were asked about this yesterday, too, and I  
think I understand your answer. I just  
01:35:06 want to. Be sure I've got it. Crystal clear. Title ten,  
which prohibits the funding of the use. Of

01:35:12 federal. Taxpayer funding for abortions or to flow to  
entities like Planned Parenthood that perform  
01:35:17 abortions. Or refer people to abortions. You were asked  
yesterday if you would support president  
01:35:22 Trump's rule that says no title ten funding for those who  
perform abortions or refer people to  
01:35:26 abortions. I think your answer was yes, you would  
reinstate that rule. I just want to be sure I'm  
01:35:30 right about that. Yes. Fantastic. Last point. That I have  
for you on myfiprestone, the chemical  
01:35:35 abortion drug. You said yesterday that. You would study  
its safety. I think that's good. I want to  
01:35:41 make an additional point here, just about how the Biden  
administration changed the rules. On  
01:35:44 Mephapresto that I hope that you'll take into  
consideration because you pointed out. Almost done.  
01:35:48 Mr. Chairman, you pointed out that we need to honor the  
wishes of voters and. States and their right  
01:35:54 to set life policy. I just point out that the Biden  
administration's, rule on mythoppress zone,  
01:35:59 which they did after the Dobbs. Decision means that in any  
state, including ones like mine, where  
01:36:04 voters or state legislators say we don't want abortion  
performed after a certain point.  
01:36:10 If the Biden administration rule on chemical abortion  
stands and you can mail in these abortion  
01:36:14 drugs without a doctor visitor referral. That means no  
state ban, no state decision, no voter  
01:36:20 decision is going to matter. We're going to have a one  
size fits all policy set here in Washington.  
01:36:24 I hope you'll take that into consideration. I will  
implement President Trump's policies. Senator  
01:36:30 Hason. Well, thank you, Mr. Chairman. And ranking member  
Sanders. Good morning, CHD Kennedy. Look. I  
01:36:38 want to just take a moment because like a few of us on  
this dias, I sit on finance as well as help.  
01:36:44 And one of the things that was most disturbing to me about  
yesterday's hearing was. The suggestion  
01:36:50 from some of my friends on the other side of the. Dais.  
That. Our intense questioning and concerns  
01:36:59 about Mr. Kennedy were driven by partisanship.  
01:37:04 I have voted for five of President Trump's nominees to  
date in the last couple of weeks. One of  
01:37:10 them, the new secretary of transportation, was on the  
scene last night at DCA.

01:37:16 Like all of us, I take really seriously. Our obligation for advice and consent.

01:37:24 And I am concerned. As Senator Mullen expressed his concern about the need for science to help us

01:37:31 move forward on critical, critical issues. Now, some of you are new to this committee and new to the

01:37:37 senate, so you may not know.

01:37:39 That I am the proud mother of a 36 year old young man with severe cerebral palsy.

01:37:45 And a date does not go by.

01:37:49 When I don't think about what did I do when I was pregnant with him that might have caused the

01:37:54 hydrocephalus.

01:37:57 That has so impacted his life.

01:37:59 So please do not. Suggest that anybody in this body of either political party doesn't want to know

01:38:06 what the cause of autism is.

01:38:09 Do you know how many friends I have with children who have autism?

01:38:15 The problem.

01:38:17 With this witness's response on the autism.

01:38:22 Cause and the relationship to vaccines.

01:38:26 Is because he's relitigating and churning settled science, so we can't. Go forward.

01:38:33 And find out what the cause of autism is and treat these kids and help these families.

01:38:40 Mr. Kennedy, that first autism study rocks my world.

01:38:47 And like every mother, I worried about whether, in fact, the vaccine had done something to my son.

01:38:55 And you know what? It was a tiny study of about twelve kids, and over time, the scientific community

01:39:01 studied and studied and studied and found that it was wrong.

01:39:07 And the journal retracted the study because sometimes science is wrong. We make progress. We build

01:39:17 on the work and we become more successful. And when you continue to sow doubt about settled science,

01:39:25 it makes it impossible for us to move forward. So that's what the problem is here.

01:39:32 It's the relitigating and rehashing and continuing to sow doubt. So we can't move forward and it

01:39:39 freezes us in place. Now let me move. On to my other concerns from yesterday's hearing. During

01:39:46 yesterday's hearing.

01:39:49 You really showed a lack of knowledge. About Medicare and Medicaid. So what is Medicare part a?

01:39:58 Medicare part.

01:40:01 Is mainly for primary care or physicians.

01:40:08 And then medical. Medicare part a is seniors coverage for inpatient hospital care. What's Medicare

01:40:14 part b for? Physicians and doctors medical care party. That is coverage for outpatient care and home

01:40:22 health. So what? Is Medicare part c. Medicare part c.

01:40:28 Is a program where it's the full menu of all the services ABC and D for Medicare. It is Medicare

01:40:35 advantage, which the private, it's the private insurance action for seniors on Medicare. So, Mr.

01:40:41 Kennedy, you want us to confirm you to be in charge of Medicare, but it appears that you don't know.

01:40:48 The basics of this program.

01:40:51 So let's turn. No, I had to correct you on several things.

01:40:56 Yesterday. You didn't correct me. Mr. Kennedy, my time is limited and I hope the chair will give me

01:41:02 a couple of minutes. Yes, medicare.

01:41:07 One. Let's turn to Medicaid.

01:41:11 Medicaid. You said yesterday to Senator Cassidy, Medicaid is fully paid.

01:41:16 For by the federal government and it's not fee for service. That statement is false. Do you now

01:41:22 understand that that statement is false. Yes or no? That Medicaid is paid for. By the federal

01:41:27 government. I believe that you said it is fully paid for Medicaid in fact, sir.

01:41:34 Has a partnership, right? So you were wrong yesterday. So you're acknowledging that. It was false,

01:41:39 right? I missed. Aided something. All right, good. So yesterday when you were questioned about.

01:41:43 Medicaid. You repeatedly dodged questions by saying you want to make it better.

01:41:49 Republicans are circulating a proposal that would end Medicaid expansion in some states, including

01:41:53 in New Hampshire. So I will continue. Submit this for the record. But it is important to me to

01:42:00 understand whether you believe that taking Medicaid away from 60,000 people in new Hampshire would

01:42:06 make Medicaid better.

01:42:09 And would it make New Hampshire healthy again? I'll submit that for the record. Thank you. Mr.

01:42:12 Chair. Senator Tuperville. Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

01:42:17 Thank you, Mr. Kennedy, for being here. Being a few months older than me. I'm going to be

01:42:21 respectful, your elders, not by much. Yeah, not by much. That's right. But thank. You look at this

01:42:28 room? We hadn't had a full room in here since I've. Been in her four years on any hearing. Thank you

01:42:35 for bringing the light to what this is all about. It's about health in our country.

01:42:41 There might have been a half a dozen people in in the last health and human services.

01:42:47 Nominee. Nobody was interested. Lawyer who worked from home in California.

01:42:53 Didn't do a damn thing. In terms of what we needed when Covid was full steam, so thank you. Thank

01:43:00 you for getting our young people involved. My two boys, 28 and 30.

01:43:06 A year so ago, they were going to vote for you for president, United States. You know why? Because

01:43:10 you're trying to save.

01:43:13 Their group of people.

01:43:15 From the. Chemicals and the things that we have in our food, they're fired up about it and you

01:43:20 brought light to that. And thank God you've done that. You brought importance to what we're doing.

01:43:26 I coached for 40 years. In the last four or five years I coached, I'd never seen, like, the run on

01:43:31 drugs our young people are being given by doctors across this country.

01:43:36 We have a attention deficit problem in this country. Attention deficit? When you and I are growing

01:43:41 up,

01:43:43 Our parents didn't use a drug. They used a belt and whipped their butt until it sit down. Nowadays,

01:43:48 we give them Adderall and Redland like candy across college campuses and high school campuses Mr.

01:43:56 Kenny, what are we going to do about that?

01:43:59 Today, 15% of american kids are on aderal and.

01:44:07 There's clearly a major problem with overprescription.

01:44:10 Not just with our children, but with our entire population.

01:44:15 We have 4.2% of the world's population, and we take 50% of the pharmaceutical drugs. And there's a

01:44:22 recent study by Peter Gaus, who is one of the founders of the Cochrane collaboration.

01:44:29 That showed that prescription drugs are now the third largest cause of death in our country after

01:44:33 cardiac arrested cancer. We're not getting healthier. Americans are getting less and less healthy.

01:44:40 70% of pharmaceutical profits.

01:44:43 Globally come from our country, which has 4.2% of the world's population. We're the only country

01:44:50 that allows full scale pharmaceutical ads on tv, and we're all being told you can make yourself. You

01:44:56 can eat anything you want, you can smoke anything you want. You could do anything you want. And

01:45:01 there'll be a drug to fix you in. The end and it is not a good formula.

01:45:08 And our kids are getting sicker and sicker. They're not getting better. Nobody here. All the people

01:45:13 here who are defending this current system and defending these pharmaceutical industry profits, many

01:45:19 of whom are taking huge amounts of money on the pharmaceutical industry, millions of dollars.

01:45:26 For many of these senators.

01:45:29 And none of that. This is not making our country healthier.

01:45:34 It's making us sicker. We need to get rid of these conflicts. We need good science and we need good

01:45:39 leadership. Is able to stand up to these big industries and not bent over for them. Thank you. And

01:45:46 you brought to light the vaccines. Over the last couple of years, I've had my first. Granddaughter

01:45:52 here in a couple of weeks, and my son and his wife have done their research about vaccines.

01:45:59 And she's not going to be a pin cushion. We're not going to allow that to happen. But you brought

01:46:05 that up. But as you and I talked about vaccines. Coach, let's empire scientists to do their job.

01:46:11 Let's go by what they do. Let's don't just do something for the pharmaceutical company, so I

01:46:16 appreciate you doing that. One other thing is you and I talked about. Red die number three and just

01:46:21 happened. You and I talked about that a few days later in this room. We had the FDA director. And I

01:46:27 asked him, why do we use red dye three in our cosmetics? Or we don't use in cosmetics, we use in our

01:46:33 food, but we don't. Use in cosmetics because it causes cancer. What in the heck's going on? Well, a  
01:46:39 few weeks later because of your.  
01:46:43 So tell me about dies and things that you're concerned about, because I get more talk. About that  
01:46:47 than anything.  
01:46:49 We have 10,000 ingredients in our food in this country because.  
01:46:55 Fda. Employs a standard called the grass standard.  
01:46:59 And looks at any new chemical is innocent to proven guilty in Europe.  
01:47:04 They have 400 ingredients. They're flows. Kelloggs makes fruit loops for the United States alone. It  
01:47:09 is loaded with red dye, blue dye dye and many, many other ingredients. They make the same product.  
01:47:15 For Canada, it's all vegetable dies. And for Europe, if you eat a McDonald's french fried in this  
01:47:22 country. It has eleven ingredients.  
01:47:24 With the same ingredient, the same product. In Europe, it has three.  
01:47:28 We are allowing these companies because their influence over this body, over. Our regulatory  
01:47:34 agencies. To mass poison American. Children, and that's wrong.  
01:47:42 It needs to end, and I believe I'm the one person who's able to. End it. Thank you.  
01:47:47 Senator Kim thank you, chairman. Mr. Kennedy, good to see you. I want that to just start by asking  
01:47:53 you if you support medically assisted treatment to help people get off of opiate addiction. Yes, I  
01:47:59 do. Do you think it's safe? And would you consider it to be the gold standard of the approach.  
01:48:05 The Cochrane Collaboration, which is the most prestigious.  
01:48:09 Scientific or scientific research organization.  
01:48:15 At the gold standard.  
01:48:19 As found in studies, occult standard is twelve separate programs.  
01:48:25 You need an entire retina, entire menu of treatments, because many addicts will not respond  
01:48:30 immediately. At least the twelve step programs.  
01:48:34 And for many of them, Suboxen and other, and even methadone.  
01:48:39 Are critical interventions and save lives that get addicts off the street, and they should be

01:48:44 available. As a treatment option. I wouldn't describe them  
as gold standard, but I would describe  
01:48:49 them as medically necessary. Well, this is something.  
Look, I know we all take this very seriously  
01:48:54 in terms of the plight of opiate addiction in our country.  
01:48:59 And that's something that I hope we can recognize. We need  
to lift up more and more. I mean, NIH has  
01:49:02 said over and over again, not enough people are doing it  
in fact, an NIH published study does called  
01:49:08 it the gold standard of treating for opiate use. Disorder.  
You're on a mission.  
01:49:14 Against and fighting against chronic disease. You talk a  
lot about obesity. I wanted to get your  
01:49:18 thoughts. If you support Wigovi Ozempic other similar  
types of GLP one drugs. If I obesity.  
01:49:27 Gop one. Drugs. Gop drugs. The class of drugs or miracle  
drugs?  
01:49:34 But I do not think.  
01:49:38 They should be the first frontline intervention for six  
year old kids for whom they are currently.  
01:49:46 That is the standard of practice now.  
01:49:51 If every American who qualifies for GLP by being  
overweight. 74% of our population.  
01:49:58 Asked with them and the federal government was paying for  
it. It would cause over a trillion  
01:50:03 dollars. A year.  
01:50:05 It would double the insurance cost.  
01:50:09 For employers in this country. And it would be a tsunami.  
01:50:15 They have a lot of side effects. You support it, but that  
you don't see it. Being.  
01:50:21 The tool of choice for especially young kids. Exactly.  
01:50:26 For people who have morbid obesity. For people of  
diabetes, absolutely.  
01:50:33 And.  
01:50:35 They shouldn't be prescribed alone.  
01:50:39 Without. Also prescriptions for exercise because otherwise  
they eat away at muscle and they're  
01:50:44 counterproductive. They go after muscle first.  
01:50:49 If all kinds of bad side effects. About half the people on  
glps get to offer them after two years  
01:50:55 and there's problems when you get off them.  
01:50:59 Go ahead. Yeah, I wanted to move on to just clarify some  
statements you made in the past. In the  
01:51:04 past, you said, quote, Wifi radiation does all kinds of  
bad things, including causing cancer. Do you



01:51:10 still stand by that statement? Yes, or I want a case in front of the court. Of appeals against the

01:51:15 FCC on that very issue. And 5g. Do you feel the same way about 5G?

01:51:23 I'm just saying. Electromagnetic radiation is an RF you think causes another issue that comes

01:51:30 before.

01:51:32 Your work if you were to be confirmed, and let me just clarify that.

01:51:36 It changes DNA and. There are scientific studies that have linked it to cancer, many of them.

01:51:43 But it does other things that are, including neurological injury, that are kind of the front line

01:51:48 injuries. That we're most concerned about. And that are best documented. One other issue that comes

01:51:54 before your work, if you're confirmed. I wanted to ask if you would support and continue and expand

01:51:59 CDC's role in collecting and disseminating data on firearm mortality in the United States, something

01:52:05 that I believe.

01:52:08 That. We need to study the causes of mass shootings.

01:52:13 We need to study all the causes.

01:52:16 When it came to you, said earlier in response on Avian Flu, you would continue the investments that

01:52:22 you would support vaccine development. I just want to clarify, does that mean you support

01:52:26 investments in. MRNA vaccine research and development.

01:52:32 I'm not going to pick a vaccine right now. I need to look at all the data. I need to look at safety

01:52:40 data, advocacy data, but I'm going to continue research on every kind of vaccine.

01:52:46 Mr. Chair. Yield back. Thank you, Senator Kim. And now, Senator Banks. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr.

01:52:52 Kennedy. President Trump just won a historic election victory, and you were a big part of it at the

01:52:58 outset of the hearing, you talked about those Maha moms, that coalition that you led, that movement.

01:53:05 That was. Behind you that supported President Trump on election Day, giving him one of the biggest

01:53:09 electoral college votes. In my lifetime, you were a part of that. The voters voted for president

01:53:16 Trump. President Trump by the way. Is a man of his word. He always follows through on what he says

01:53:21 he's GoinG. To do. And one of the things that he said he was going to do was put you front and

01:53:25 center.

01:53:27 This administration to make America healthy again. And that's why, at the end of the day, a lot of

01:53:32 those moms have been here yesterday and today from Indiana to support you in this movement, and

01:53:37 that's why you have my full support and anything other than voting for you to confirm. You would be

01:53:43 thumbing my nose at that movement. The millions of people. In this country who want us to focus on

01:53:49 making America healthy again. One of the things I've thought a lot about. I serve on the armed

01:53:54 services committee as well. I just left. Another hearing with the nominee to be our new secretary of

01:53:58 the army.

01:53:59 Is the national security risk of an obese nation. 70% of our kids are not eligible. Today to serve

01:54:07 in the United States military. And the army two years ago was 25% off. Of its recruitment goals. And

01:54:14 obesity among our kids is one of the reasons why. And I think you would agree. My first question for

01:54:19 you.

01:54:21 This epidemic in this country is as much of a public health risk as it is a national security risk.

01:54:26 Would you agree with that? Absolutely, senator.

01:54:30 And like I said. Well, I didn't say this when my uncle was president. 3%. Of Americans were obese.

01:54:37 And today, 74% of kids are overweight.

01:54:42 In Japan, 3% are obese. So other nations. What we're seeing here is not happening elsewhere. And

01:54:49 american kids did not suddenly.

01:54:53 Get gluttonous and lazy. Something is poisoning them, and we need to figure that out.

01:55:01 And then we need to end those exposures.

01:55:05 We need to gold standard science and all of these.

01:55:08 Moms recognize that we now have a unique opportunity in history, where history now is an inflection.

01:55:14 Point.

01:55:16 Where we have a unique opportunity to reverse this epidemic, and we know what we have to do. We have

01:55:22 to study the additives. We have to. And the conflicts of interest. On the nutrition panels and on

01:55:28 the drug panels that are loaded with people who have. Corrupt entanglements with the entities

01:55:35 they're supposed to regulate that have turned these agencies. Into sock puppets for the industries

01:55:41 they're supposed to regulate. We need somebody who can come. In. Who can break that inertia?

01:55:48 We are attracting the most talented group of people.

01:55:52 Working nih and cdc and fda in modern history.

01:55:56 And people who are not coming there for jobs. They're innovators.

01:56:01 They're disruptors, they're entrepreneurs, and they're coming in not because they want possession,

01:56:05 but because they actually want to change things. And give us gold standard science and make America

01:56:11 healthy. And I know you agree that fitness is a part of that. A major part of that. Absolutely. My

01:56:16 uncle started the presidential council.

01:56:20 On physical fitness. I won a contest when I was.

01:56:25 In school. I got an award for it, and it was a piece of pride for me and. For many people in my

01:56:29 generation, I'm sure coach.

01:56:32 Won his.

01:56:34 Residence. I want to move on to another national security threat. The biggest existential threat to

01:56:38 America is the Chinese Communist Party, and right now we're importing one third.

01:56:45 Of our medicines from China. And even more of our generic drugs come from China. It's a public

01:56:51 health risk, and a national security risk. What can you do as HHS secretary to reduce our reliance

01:56:57 on China? And help our domestic. Priority for President Trump.

01:57:03 As perhaps our greatest national security vulnerability.

01:57:09 And over the past few years, so much.

01:57:13 Of. Our, of our critical of our essential medicines, the production of them and the supply chains

01:57:20 have been exported to China and it's a crisis now in our country. If there is a pandemic if there is

01:57:26 a war, if there's any conflicts.

01:57:29 China will now be able to ransom american health, and that is not a good situation. We need to bring

01:57:35 that production home. And President Trump.

01:57:39 Is committed to doing just that. Well, sir, I think you're going to have a tough job. You have my

01:57:43 full support, but.

01:57:46 You've got lawmakers against you, you're going to have bureaucrats against you. You're going to be

01:57:49 working with the limits of the administrative state at the department, but I'll have your back, and

01:57:54 I want to work with you to get it done. Thank you, sir.  
Thank you. I yield back.

01:57:59 Senator blunt. Rochester.

01:58:03 Thank you, chairman Cassidy and ranking member Sanders.  
Mr. Kennedy.

01:58:09 During our meeting, you shared your vision for the  
department, and we discussed priorities important  
01:58:15 to my home. State of Delaware. But I must say, as a former  
cabinet secretary and a health official  
01:58:22 in my state, and listening to your answers today in this  
hearing.

01:58:27 I am. Deeply concerned and shocked by your apparent lack  
of understanding of, frankly, some of the.  
01:58:37 Basic responsibilities of the department.

01:58:41 It's one of the largest, most complex, and it is vitally  
important. And yesterday, during your  
01:58:46 finance hearing, and today you confuse details about  
Medicare and Medicaid. You didn't. Know what  
01:58:53 authorities you have under the emergency Medical treatment  
and labor act known as Mtala and. You  
01:59:00 made false claims about the safety of Mifa Pristone.  
However, what concerns me the most. As a mom  
01:59:06 and a first time grandmother is your decades long track  
record of promoting vaccine misinformation  
01:59:13 and profiting from it, despite the harms that it may cause  
to american children. And with that, I'll  
01:59:18 turn to my questions.

01:59:21 In yesterday's hearing. You did not. Seem to know anything  
about Mtala, even though I raised it with  
01:59:27 you during our meeting last. Week, so I'll give you  
another opportunity. Yes or no? Do you believe  
01:59:33 that? A person presenting to an emergency room with a  
severe illness should have any type of  
01:59:40 emergency care. Needed to save their life.

01:59:44 Any American who the law says yes.  
01:59:49 I'm answering the question.

01:59:52 Under the law, every American who presents to emergency  
room must be treated. And I can enforce  
01:59:57 that. Law, and I believe that's the right thing to do. Do  
you agree that a person who is  
02:00:02 experiencing severe pregnancy complications should be able  
to receive emergency care to save their  
02:00:08 life. If that cares. An abortion?

02:00:12 My understanding President Trump's policy is that I'm not  
asking. President Trump's policy. I'm

02:00:18 asking you.

02:00:21 It's necessary to save the life. Okay, so you do believe. Yes, they should. Do you? Commit to

02:00:26 ensuring that pregnant women will have access to all necessary emergency care, including an

02:00:32 abortion. If it is required to save their life or preserve if it's required to save their life. And

02:00:37 would you agree that the ability. To provide quality emergency care for pregnant women is essential

02:00:44 to preventing maternal mortality.

02:00:47 Providing care for pregnant women. We should be providing care for pregnant women. President Trump

02:00:52 wants to do that.

02:00:55 Bottom line for me, women should not be forced to rely on emergency airlifts to other states. For

02:01:00 life saving care. And to be blunt, in our meeting, your lack of understanding.

02:01:07 Really again, was very concerning.

02:01:11 In 2023 interview, you described yourself.

02:01:14 Saying, I'm a Kennedy Democrat. I believe in labor unions. I believe in a strong, robust middle

02:01:20 class. I believe in racial justice. And just yesterday and today, during this hearing and the

02:01:26 hearing yesterday, you said we need to respect diversity. Mr. Kennedy the Trump administration

02:01:33 recently issued an executive order that directs the federal government to eliminate grants,

02:01:39 contracts, policies, programs, and activities that include diversity, equity, Inclusion and

02:01:44 accessibility. This executive order has already caused widespread confusion, fear, and uncertainty

02:01:49 for healthcare providers, researchers, public health professionals and service providers across the

02:01:54 country. You said in our meeting that you understand that health disparities exist. So, yes or no?

02:02:02 Do you, in your view, do the following programs count as.

02:02:07 Health DEI programs, programs that target black women to address the maternal mortality crisis.

02:02:13 Senator, there are seven yes or no? I'm not going to answer that. Yes or no? If you want an answer.

02:02:19 I'm happy to give it to you, but it's not a yes. I just want a yes or no.

02:02:23 It's not susceptible that yes or no answer.

02:02:27 Senator, let me shift this because I only have you want to hear an answer.

02:02:32 33 seconds. And there are people out here who want to understand that if they are at a pride parade  
02:02:38 and they're a healthcare provider. Can they give out a brochure if. You want people to understand,  
02:02:42 let me ask my question.  
02:02:45 In a black church that is on Martin Luther King Day. Will they be able to have that? Program? Will  
02:02:50 it be funded? Will they get in trouble? Will they be fired? That's the cause and concern. We all  
02:02:56 know that.  
02:02:58 It is important that we have a healthy country.  
02:03:03 I think I got my answer. Thank you, and I yield back.  
02:03:09 I will allow the witness to answer.  
02:03:12 There are.  
02:03:15 Seven departments at NIH that.  
02:03:20 Protect. Minority health.  
02:03:23 And that seek to eliminate. The shocking.  
02:03:27 Unacceptable. Disparities.  
02:03:30 And minority health.  
02:03:32 I believe in helping all people who are vulnerable. Adi programs that president trump eliminated.  
02:03:40 \$63 million.  
02:03:42 With no discernible impact.  
02:03:46 On positive impact on human health in this country.  
02:03:50 There's institutions already that exist, that exists before President Biden, whose job it is to do  
02:03:55 just that. Well, you cut those programs.  
02:03:59 That you just referenced.  
02:04:01 That decision is up to congress, not to the HHS sector. Thank you. I yield back for the record,  
02:04:07 treating a miscarriage or ectopic pregnancy is not an abortion.  
02:04:12 It's just false. And so I would ask that.  
02:04:17 That not be? Since I'm not into misinformation, I would ask that misinformation I continually be  
02:04:21 repeated.  
02:04:24 Senator husted.  
02:04:27 Thank you very much. Thank you.  
02:04:32 For.  
02:04:34 Thank you for the work that you have done to create awareness about. The food we eat and how it  
02:04:41 affects our health, particularly with our children.  
02:04:45 And you have helped put that on the american agenda.  
02:04:50 Rightfully so, and I appreciate that. I want to share with you a few statistics. According to the

02:04:55 CDC, obesity prevalence is around 42% among adults with lower incomes, compared to 31% among higher  
02:05:04 income individuals.  
02:05:07 That the relationship is strong among women, 45% of low income women are obese compared to 29% of  
02:05:13 higher income women.  
02:05:16 And I know I have had this conversation over the course of my public service career, many, many  
02:05:21 times because. The states. We run the Medicaid program. That it impacts.  
02:05:30 Those health statistics that obesity impacts our programs, the cost of them, the quality of life of  
02:05:37 the people. Who are served.  
02:05:41 And I also get this question about. Why in the world.  
02:05:46 Does the federal government continue to subsidize programs that lead to unhealthy foods? And why do  
02:05:52 we operate programs in the way that we do, like with snap?  
02:05:57 That pays for foods that we know are causing people to be unhealthy, and I know you don't have the  
02:06:02 sole authority in this matter. Department of Agriculture and the Congress.  
02:06:08 Certainly has an impact on that.  
02:06:11 But could you just.  
02:06:13 Shed some light on how you see your role in trying to impact that, because we see that these  
02:06:19 policies are disproportionately affecting poor people. And the inability to change them and make  
02:06:25 America healthy again is having a disproportionate effect not only on them, but the cost of all of  
02:06:30 these programs. We're trying to maintain.  
02:06:35 Thank you for the question, senator.  
02:06:41 Nih. Has been diverted.  
02:06:46 Into. Away from studying the ideology of chronic disease. So there's almost nothing at an IH. Very,  
02:06:53 very little low percentage of its budget.  
02:06:57 If \$42 billion budget. That is devoted to finding out why we're having this obesity epidemic. We  
02:07:04 know it's. An environmental toxin. Epidemics are not caused by genes. That genes may provide a  
02:07:09 vulnerability.  
02:07:12 You need an environmental toxin. Why aren't we devoting science to finding out what those toxins are  
02:07:16 and then eliminating them.  
02:07:20 And. The focus is on infectious disease.  
02:07:24 And.

02:07:26 Almost altogether ignore chronic disease, which causes 92% of the tests in this country.

02:07:32 And during Covid. We have the highest death rate of any country in the world. We had 16% of the

02:07:38 Covid as we only have 4.2% of the world's population, no country did as poorly as us.

02:07:46 As CDC. Why is that? Because we are the sickest people on earth.

02:07:51 The average person who died from Covid had 3.8 chronic diseases. American blacks were dying from

02:07:57 Covid greater than almost any population in the world. About over 3000 deaths per million

02:08:04 population. The only people worse are indian reservations, which have an even a higher rate. And the

02:08:10 only. Person.

02:08:14 Globally were some owens.

02:08:17 We had, american blacks were disproportionately impacted.

02:08:22 Because.

02:08:24 They disproportionately have diabetes, obesity, cardiac illnesses and other chronic disease. We need

02:08:29 to start.

02:08:31 Studying those. And we need to get rid of the conflicts in the agency that obstructs. Those studies.

02:08:37 And that.

02:08:39 Are focused on advancing the merck and tahal interest of the food industry in the pharmaceutical

02:08:45 industry rather than the health of the american people. Well, I would ask you to take if confirm. To

02:08:52 take a leadership role across agencies. To advise us on what policy changes we must make to both not

02:09:01 make it worse, but to make it better because we subsidize, literally. We have policies as a

02:09:07 government that encourages the production of foods and the sale of foods, particularly our poorest

02:09:13 Americans, that lead to. These problems. We are literally creating the problem that we're trying to

02:09:19 solve. And your recommendations? Would be very much appreciated. We already have liaisons with the

02:09:26 USDA, with Brooke Rollins.

02:09:30 With whom I have a very good relationship.

02:09:34 So that we can work collaboratively to reduce. The chronic disease and the exposures that are

02:09:40 causing them. Thank you.

02:09:44 Senator Hickenlooper. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

02:09:49 I thank you, Mr. Kennedy. Bobby.



02:09:52 We share a mutual oldest best friend. And I respect that affection that you have for him very. Much.

02:09:59 You did talk a little longer. In your introduction. So I'm going to try to urge concision because

02:10:05 I've had three or four questions. As I said when we met, I'm still very concerned about the issues

02:10:10 around vaccination, but I thought I'd start with the ability of Medicare. To negotiate drug prices,

02:10:15 which was finally.

02:10:17 Okayed in 2022.

02:10:20 We'll save Medicare plan \$100 billion in the next ten years, probably \$1.5 billion out of consumers

02:10:27 pockets. Medicare patients in just 2026 alone.

02:10:32 Yesterday you said that the Trump administration had issued a statement to lowering the cost of

02:10:36 prescription drugs. And continuing the negotiation program.

02:10:41 I went back and looked at that, and it was a statement that mentioned increasing transparency. And

02:10:46 then said they would solicit feedback on the Medicare. Drug price. But nowhere did it say in the

02:10:51 statement that the administration was actually going to commit to lowering prices.

02:10:56 So is that something you still feel that that negotiation program and lowering those prices is

02:11:01 important? I've spoken to President Trump about negotiations.

02:11:07 He's absolutely. Committed to negotiating lower drug prices.

02:11:11 I appreciate that.

02:11:13 You've also spoken much on the need to focus on prevention of chronic disease, which I think

02:11:18 everyone shares. The Maha movement is alive in Colorado as well as everywhere else. People are

02:11:24 frustrated. By the fact that for every dollar we spend on health care in this country, And, it has

02:11:31 been previously said, often double any other country. Only a nickel goes to prevention. So when you

02:11:36 look at that \$100 billion, it's going to be saved over the next ten years. Through the negotiation

02:11:42 of pharmaceuticals.

02:11:45 Do you have any ideas of how we could put that towards prevention?

02:11:50 That revenue.

02:11:53 That's a really good question, Senator Higgin Luber.

02:11:59 I'm going to give you 40 seconds because I've got two more questions.

02:12:05 We can do. Medicaid, Medicare, and Obamacare should be value. We should be moving to value based

02:12:11 care.

02:12:12 Which includes prevention. And then the other arm is at NIH, CDC and FDA, which should identify the

02:12:19 toxins that are contributing chronic disease and eliminating them. Great. Another short question

02:12:25 with Mifa. Pristine, which has been described and discussed a lot already, and I understand. Your

02:12:31 commitment to follow the policy of the president.

02:12:36 But he has other tools. At his behest. If there needs to be another study or looking at the other

02:12:43 existing studies.

02:12:45 Will you make sure that there's no bias to the best?

02:12:49 Of our human ability to twist those results in any way to support that policy. And I'm speaking now

02:12:56 just about the defense of science, to make sure that those. I will commit to you here today. Review

02:13:02 prior to approving any study at NIH.

02:13:07 To allow you to approve the protocols and the researchers and help us choose the research. All I

02:13:13 want is good science, and I would love input from this committee on any study that we do. There's

02:13:19 many ways that studies are flawed.

02:13:23 And you can correct those at the outset in a lot of ways. So absolutely. I will work with you to

02:13:28 make sure that it's science that you're. Satisfied with and I'm satisfied with that shows that this

02:13:32 is the first time you're being considered for a cabinet position because no other person would ever

02:13:36 solicit and willingly approve our participation. I'm going to make that commitment. I know the

02:13:41 hazard of it. But I'm going to do it anyway. I'll hold you to it.

02:13:47 Let me get to the vaccines. And I think this is crucial because. I think there is widespread

02:13:54 distrust and increasing distrust in the scientific community. I am a scientist. Some have argued

02:13:58 that I'm the only scientist in the senate left that is actually.

02:14:03 I've written research papers and peer reviewed journals. I think I understand how it works and it

02:14:07 is. A healthy skepticism is useful, but we want to make  
sure that's a healthy skepticism. And  
02:14:15 yesterday, in the discussion about Lyme disease.  
02:14:19 You said that.  
02:14:22 In your discussion that. It was formulated to be a  
militaristic bioweapon.  
02:14:28 That you had heard that in three books, but you hadn't  
read through.  
02:14:32 And I think at a certain point, if you're going to be an  
activist or some people would say a  
02:14:36 prophet.  
02:14:38 What you say. Becomes promoting something, promoting an  
idea. And I think when you've only read  
02:14:46 three books, Or little bits of the three books, not the  
whole three books.  
02:14:52 Isn't that reckless? There's something about. Aren't you  
then promoting this antiscience? Anti.  
02:14:59 The conspiracy about Lyme disease in this case, but the  
same thing about some of these vaccine  
02:15:03 issues. Like I said, I never endorsed the issue. I said  
it's out there.  
02:15:10 For me, not. To acknowledge that.  
02:15:13 Is a form of manipulation. For me to say. There is no  
question here. The government proclaimed  
02:15:19 orthodoxy is true. Anybody who believes. I'm going to have  
time and I appreciate the things I just  
02:15:25 leave it that just because we do have.  
02:15:29 One out of 36 kids.  
02:15:32 That again. We can't explain what it was. It's not fair to  
put that. Blame.  
02:15:37 Onto all kinds of things, but focus on vaccinations. I  
yield back, Dr. Moody. Senator. Moody. I'm  
02:15:43 sorry.  
02:15:48 Good morning. Thank you for joining us. And thank you for  
sitting down with me and spending so much  
02:15:52 time with me in my office. It has been an overwhelming  
week. I am the junior most senator on this  
02:15:56 committee. And certainly you treated me no differently  
than the chairman, and I am grateful. To you  
02:16:02 for that. One of the topics we spent a long time. Talking  
about was your assurance and knowledge and  
02:16:08 understanding that it was the states that in fact gave  
power, limited power to the federal  
02:16:13 government and not the other way around.

02:16:17 And. Your assurance that you will not use your agency or  
any organization that falls under your  
02:16:23 leadership to interfere with the state's ability to set  
policy or any autonomy of the state. To  
02:16:31 enact or enforce laws that protect the lives of the  
unborn. I think that that is a concern of many.  
02:16:37 It was certainly one of mine. And you allayed those  
concerns and. I appreciated you spending so much  
02:16:41 time with your assurances. I want to turn to some of the  
discussions regarding.  
02:16:49 Many, which would say the government and health  
professionals did great harm to science and medicine  
02:16:55 in the wake of Covid-19.  
02:16:57 America, I believe, is at a crossroads where,  
unfortunately, things that used to not be particularly  
02:17:03 political, like science and medicine are now politicized  
to the point where reality is distorted.  
02:17:09 What you believe has little to do with truth or facts and  
everything to do with your party. My hope  
02:17:15 is that you, Mr. Kennedy, and President Trump's other  
appointees will break this. Cycle that is  
02:17:20 threatening America and destroying its promise. Certainly  
while I was the attorney general of  
02:17:26 Florida, I had the responsibility. In numerous areas to  
seek the truth and bring justice. Working  
02:17:33 with Governor DeSantis and other leaders. We launched  
grand jury investigations, and I want to bring  
02:17:37 your attention to one of those grand jury investigations  
that dealt with Covid-19. And the actions  
02:17:44 of government officials and big pharma. And remember that  
a grand jury investigation is made up of  
02:17:50 laypeople 18 in this instance that were brought from  
different communities in Florida. And I just  
02:17:57 want to read into the record one paragraph for your  
consideration.  
02:18:04 Much of the goodwill by the Covid-19 vaccines was  
squandered in the following years as sponsors and  
02:18:08 federal regulators collaborated to push out booster after  
booster based on shallow, inaccurate  
02:18:13 safety and efficacy data sidelining their own. Ombudsmen  
to get doses of these vaccines into the  
02:18:20 arms of every American, regardless of their underlying  
risk from the SARS. Covid two virus Erswell  
02:18:27 gatekeepers became cheerleaders. As federal regulators,  
with the trust of the American people,

02:18:32 dragged their feet in publicly confirming important safety signals and then sanctioned long. And

02:18:38 then sanctioned long delays and mandatory postmarketing studies involving those very same signals.

02:18:45 Sponsors abused the scientific journal system and regulatory reporting requirements, delaying public

02:18:49 disclosure of serious adverse events from their clinical trials for years and I could go on. Mr.

02:18:57 Kennedy, as Secretary of Health and human Services.

02:19:01 Will you use your position to squelch medical or scientific views with which you disagree?

02:19:06 Never.

02:19:09 This relevance? What Senator Higgin Luper was asking.

02:19:13 We've tried this system where government lies to Americans or where they tell them.

02:19:19 That they have it with a level of assurance.

02:19:22 They don't feel themselves and it isn't working.

02:19:27 The initial Covid vaccine, Americans flock to get it. I think 90 95% of Americans went got it. CDC

02:19:34 has now recommended an 8th booster and only 23% of Americans at most. Are taking it. It's because

02:19:43 77% of Americans no longer trust CDC.

02:19:48 That's not a good thing. If we want uptake vaccines, we need a trustworthy government.

02:19:54 In other nations where they don't have mandates like Japan. And a few years ago in Germany.

02:20:00 They had the same uptake as we did without any mandates because people trust their government that's

02:20:06 what I want to restore to the american people and the vaccine program. I want people to know if the

02:20:11 government says something, it's true.

02:20:14 It's not manipulative. It's not a noble truth. Which is what a certain doctor called his lies.

02:20:21 Certainly I don't have a lot of time, but I would like to bring your attention to another. Grand

02:20:24 jury investigation that we did in Florida, and I would ask Mr. Chairman to enter into the hearing

02:20:29 record to grand jury reports related to human trafficking and Covid-19. To have your commitment that

02:20:35 any organization under your purview will work with the states, not impede our investigations to

02:20:41 ensure that children that are in this country, that were our miners. That are under your purview

02:20:48 that you will communicate with us so that we can have the information to make sure that they are

02:20:52 safe, unlike in an investigation where Biden blocked us. In this administration at every turn to

02:20:57 keep us from getting information showing that they trafficked children. That were brought into this

02:21:02 country and lost.

02:21:05 Dozens, tens of thousands of children lost track of them and never gave us in DCF in Florida the

02:21:10 information so that we could protect them. To have your word that you will protect children. If

02:21:14 you're given that. Absolutely. President Trump.

02:21:18 Is determined to find the 300,000 children who are lost over the past four years.

02:21:23 And to return them to their parents. Thank you. Without objection. It can be entered into the

02:21:28 record. Senator Markey, thank you.

02:21:32 Yesterday, under oath, you told my colleagues on the Senate Finance Committee that when you went to

02:21:38 Samoa, in June of 2019.

02:21:42 It, quote, had nothing to do with vaccines.

02:21:46 Will you confirm again today that the trip had nothing to do with vaccines?

02:21:51 In going down there had nothing to do with vaccines. Well, I have in my hand.

02:21:57 A blog post in 2021.

02:22:00 In which you say the anti vaccine group Children's Health Defense, which you ran, offered to fund

02:22:06 the purpose of the trip to Samoa. And in the same post you state that the trip was ultimately

02:22:12 arranged by an anti vaccine activist. And during the trip, you met with an activist who. Later

02:22:19 compared vaccine. Mandates to Nazi Germany. And during that trip, you also discussed vaccines with

02:22:25 the prime minister and a director general of health of Samoa. The director general of health said

02:22:31 you specifically discussed your views. On vaccine safety fears and with unanimous consent, I will

02:22:40 submit those blog posts, Mr. Chairman, into the record without objection.

02:22:46 I'll ask you again. Did the trip have nothing to do with vaccines?

02:22:52 You told my colleagues, not senator vaccines.

02:22:56 I will.

02:22:58 Did it have anything to do with vaccines? Oh, it did not. It did not. Well, my purpose in the trip

02:23:03 was not to. I ended up having conversations with people, some of whom I never intended to meet.

02:23:11 An anti vaxer. Help finance your trip.

02:23:15 Well. You call them? Antivaxer. That's what they would call themselves.

02:23:20 Say vaccine advocates. I went down there.

02:23:24 A chd, which was that group. Offered \$6 million.

02:23:29 To obtain a grant for \$6 million to.

02:23:33 Install to digitalize the health records of some.

02:23:38 Medical.

02:23:41 I got it. Thank you. So let me just follow through. Now, 2019. So now in October of 2019.

02:23:48 The CDC declared a measles outbreak in Samoa, and in November Samoa started a mass vaccination

02:23:56 campaign to stop the outbreak. That same month, November of 2019, after 16 people had already died

02:24:04 from the outbreak and Samoa was trying to respond to the crisis. You sent a letter to the prime

02:24:10 minister of Samoa stating that quote, it is a regrettable possibility that these children are

02:24:16 causalities of the vaccine. By unanimous consent, I will introduce that letter into the record

02:24:23 without objection. So, as Samoa was trying to contain the outbreak. You were saying that it was the

02:24:30 fault of the vaccine rather than the absence of vaccinations. That caused the outbreak in Samoa in

02:24:38 the same year you visited Samoa? And I replied, Let me just finish. The death count in Samoa grew to

02:24:46 83.

02:24:48 And ultimately volunteers in New Zealand sent tiny coffins to help bury the dozens of children who

02:24:54 died, and the samoan director general of health later said with his last name.

02:25:02 And the status attached to it.

02:25:05 People will believe him. People will believe Robert Kennedy and a New Zealand vaccinologist later.

02:25:11 Said the impact of your role was devastating. So your name and your profile help fuel a measles.

02:25:17 Outbreak. You scared people from taking a vaccine. It slowed the public health response, and

02:25:24 children died. You've taken no responsibility thus far.

02:25:30 And if an outbreak occurs in the United States, I have no evidence that you would not use your role

02:25:36 as secretary to spread dangerous misinformation.

02:25:42 So. One incident, from my perspective, disqualifies you  
from holding any position in healthcare,  
02:25:48 much less the number one health official in the United  
States.  
02:25:54 And 75 Nobel Prize winners in science have said very  
clearly that you should not be confirmed, that  
02:26:01 it would be dangerous for you to have. And you should look  
at your conflict.  
02:26:07 Conflicts of those individuals? Well, 75. Look at who  
finance that letter. 75 Nobel Prize winners.  
02:26:16 And by the way, Of a high percentage of the medical  
community in Boston.  
02:26:23 The health capital of the United States in the world have  
said the same thing about your  
02:26:27 qualifications. They're saying to me they don't want tiny  
coffins as well. Neither do I. So that's  
02:26:35 the basis.  
02:26:38 Of. My reservations about you.  
02:26:41 And the reason why I'm going to vote no on your candidacy.  
Because I just think. It's too dangerous  
02:26:47 to run. The threat that that misinformation is spread in  
our country in the same way it was in  
02:26:51 Samoa.  
02:26:54 Senator Murkowski. And let me compliment Mullen and  
Murkowski. They've stayed here, the entire  
02:26:58 conference, and they're not obligated. They're not  
obligated. To like the two of us. Not that we  
02:27:01 wouldn't have otherwise, but Senator Murkowski. You,  
please. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
02:27:08 And I think these are exactly the types of forums that we  
all need to be engaged in. From start to  
02:27:14 finish because. Can you speak up, Senator McCarthy?  
02:27:18 There's been considerable discussion here about many  
issues. Certainly a lot about vaccines.  
02:27:25 Eye care deeply about making sure that our vaccines are  
safe. The efficacy of them, the availability  
02:27:31 of them. How we disseminate them is particularly important  
in a very, very rural state like mine.  
02:27:37 You have experience there. You understand that? I am  
particularly attracted by the focus on chronic  
02:27:45 diseases. We know that if we can do a better job with  
chronic diseases, maybe some of the other  
02:27:50 things that we are susceptible to and the infectious  
diseases area. We're able to.



02:27:57 Perhaps pull back a little bit on that. But our reality is, in order to make. This country healthy

02:28:05 again. It is a focus on everything. It is the prevention, it is the necessity. Of coming up with

02:28:11 these life saving.

02:28:14 Vaccines that are going to be so critically important. It is personal care. It is food, it is

02:28:20 exercise, it is all of the above.

02:28:24 And we got to figure it out together. We do need to shake some things up, but we also need.

02:28:31 To give a level of confidence. And this is what I'm hearing from so many of my colleagues who have

02:28:35 raised the issue of vaccines.

02:28:39 We have made some considerable gains in my state of Alaska with vaccinating.

02:28:46 Many people in very rural areas where.

02:28:50 One disease outbreak can wipe out an entire village. We saw this in 1918 with the spanish flu. And

02:28:56 that's why. Everyone was rattled to the core. Villages were shut down entirely. Entirely during

02:29:03 Covid, because of the fear of transmission, and so they're looking for these life saving ways and

02:29:09 means, and so. When.

02:29:11 There is a lack of confidence. When there is a doubt, it's like, well, what do I do.

02:29:17 And so we're pulling back, then? On again. These areas where we can work.

02:29:24 To prevent some of these deadly diseases that we thought we had wiped out years ago. We have

02:29:30 dramatically reduced. Diseases in my state like Hep A and B.

02:29:38 And meningitis.

02:29:40 We're just now getting through a tough bout of whooping cough that came around to the state. Now

02:29:46 there's a scare in the peninsula.

02:29:51 In Alaska.

02:29:53 About a measles outbreak.

02:29:56 We can't be going back. Backwards with our vaccinations that will allow for this level of prevention

02:30:04 and protection. So I'm asking you. You are clearly an influencer. You are clearly an influencer,

02:30:12 you. Would not be in this position today.

02:30:16 But. You can see how.

02:30:18 Your podium, your platform, your voice can influence so many, so. I am asking you on the issue of

02:30:26 vaccines specifically to please convey. Convey with a level of authority and science, but also with

02:30:36 a level of conviction and free of conflict and free of political bias.

02:30:43 That.

02:30:45 These are measures that we should be proud of as a country.

02:30:49 Proud of as a country. Look to what President Trump was able to do with a Covid vaccine. It was

02:30:55 extraordinary. And it did save lives. I need time for a question.

02:31:01 I'm asking you to focus on.

02:31:04 How you can use your position.

02:31:09 To provide for greater levels of confidence to the public when it comes to these life saving areas.

02:31:17 So I'm going to pivot to a question that you can answer. This relates. I can answer that. I know,

02:31:24 but I have 43 seconds and no one has talked. About our native populations. When you look at our

02:31:32 health statistics, whether it's Alaska natives or whether it is American Indian. Our health

02:31:36 statistics in this country, you know very well, because we've, we talked about them are not where.

02:31:42 They need to be. And it's in all categories. It's infectious disease, it's tuberculosis, it's

02:31:48 Hepsey. It's mental health, it's depression, it's substance use.

02:31:52 It's sexually transmitted diseases, it's hypertension, stroke.

02:31:56 It is so deep and it is so challenging and it is so hard.

02:32:02 You have received support.

02:32:04 From native american tribes.

02:32:07 You have been in these areas, you have been quoted, and I'd like for your comment. On this. As

02:32:13 quoted saying, as far as budgeting for indian country, you said you would immediately triple the

02:32:18 budget to support tribes. Can you expand on this pledge and the commitment. Because this is an area

02:32:25 where we have truly left our native people behind.

02:32:29 When it comes to their health and their health outcomes. Thank you, senator.

02:32:36 And this is an issue, as you and I talked about, that is very important. It's always been a priority

02:32:40 for me. I spent 20% of my career working on native issues.

02:32:46 I was one of the founding editors of Indian Country Today, which is the biggest indian newspaper. My  
02:32:52 father and uncle Ted Kennedy, my father.  
02:32:56 Were deeply, deeply critical of.  
02:32:59 The functioning of the indian health Service back in 1968 to 1980, and nothing's changed. Nothing's.  
02:33:06 Gotten better. I'm going to bring in a native at the assistant secretary level.  
02:33:13 I'd like to get him actually designated as. An assistant secretary for the first time in american  
02:33:17 history.  
02:33:19 Ensure that all of the decisions that we make in our agency. Are conscious of their impacts on the  
02:33:24 first Nations.  
02:33:27 I've spent a lot of time in your state. It's my favorite place to. Go.  
02:33:31 I've been up with a glitch and representing the glitching people up. In arctic village.  
02:33:37 And been all over the state.  
02:33:39 In the remote areas. I understand that Alaska.  
02:33:43 Unique needs of Alaska because of remote health care, because some of these areas are not even  
02:33:49 accessible. Except for airplane.  
02:33:52 They don't have ambulance services that the federal government needs to pay attention.  
02:33:58 To. Financing transportation, the unusual ways that are required.  
02:34:02 There and that we really need to focus on telemedicine and AI. Make sure that even in remote places  
02:34:09 in Alaska,  
02:34:12 Native people can get high Quality health Care, and we can do that Today. And I look forward to  
02:34:17 working with you on those issues and others. Thank you. Senator Murkowski sets the record. For going  
02:34:23 over.  
02:34:25 Senator. Also Brooks. Sorry. Good morning, CHD you, Mr. Chair. Mr. Kennedy, I was struck by your  
02:34:32 comments during our meeting last week. What? I was struck by your comments in our meeting last week.  
02:34:39 Where you made it abundantly clear to me that you intended to clean house of the. Professional  
02:34:45 scientist at the National Institutes of Health.  
02:34:49 Which, you know, is headquartered in the state of Maryland. And employs thousands of hardworking

02:34:55 Marylanders. I, for the record, believe in scientists, and I believe in doctors, and I trust them

02:35:01 over politicians without medical degrees. You talked about bad science and bad scientists. And in

02:35:07 fact, you specifically said to me, in response to my question that you intend. To replace the bad

02:35:13 scientist with the good scientist. And so I want to ask you, in your opinion, what makes a scientist

02:35:20 or a doctor qualified to serve at the National Institutes of Health science who's debated, devoted

02:35:27 to empirical methodology, to evidence based science. Scientists. Who understand the importance of

02:35:34 replication. Importance of publishing raw data and being open and transparent about it.

02:35:41 The importance of publishing peer review.

02:35:43 We have NIH has overseen over the past several years. The decline, the precipitous decline in

02:35:50 american health.

02:35:52 There's 91,000 people at hhs.

02:35:56 And are you suggesting that some of them should not be held responsible for that decline? They were

02:36:00 in charge of protecting. Let me just insert. Let me just finish. Let me just say this because. I

02:36:05 only have three minutes left. I don't set the rules here, but I ask the questions. And the question

02:36:11 is really whether you intend, as you said,

02:36:15 To substitute essentially your judgment for the judgment of these professional scientists.

02:36:22 My judgment for science. Of course I'm not going to do that. What I'm going to do isn't the new York

02:36:28 Times just did an article last week. Talking about the fraud. The 20 year fraud. 800 fraudulent

02:36:35 studies produced by NIH.

02:36:38 On amyloid blacks and not allowing any other hypothesis about the cause of Alzheimer's, how will you

02:36:44 decide, Mr. Kennedy, which scientist?

02:36:48 Are they? The ones who disagree with you, the ones who are corrupt, ones who have been doing

02:36:53 science, like the amyloid black studies that were fraudulent.

02:36:58 Let me ask you a question. Do you have a medical degree? Do I know? Okay, let me. Go to the next

02:37:03 question. The heritage fund has compiled a watch list of federal employees to go after federal

02:37:09 staff. Is there a watch list for federal staff at HHS?

02:37:14 Not that I know of. Have you or has anyone in the administration developed a list of career  
02:37:19 scientists or federal staff that you would target for termination. That I know of.  
02:37:28 And let me just ask you another.  
02:37:33 Question. Now.  
02:37:35 Your failed presidential campaign has been raising money. To try and cover your debts. And you were  
02:37:40 questioned about this yesterday and failed to answer. A question that Senator Warren asks you, and  
02:37:46 so I want to ask you again.  
02:37:49 Regarding. These emails that you have sent to raise money, how much has your presidential campaign  
02:37:54 made fundraising off? Of this administration's complete disregard for the workforce at HHS.  
02:38:01 I didn't hear the question.  
02:38:03 How much money has your presidential campaign made off of fundraising? Off of this administration's  
02:38:09 complete. Disregard for the workforce at HHS.  
02:38:13 Zero. Okay, Mr. Chair, I'd like to ask unanimous consent to enter into the record two. Emails.  
02:38:20 From this week and the week before regarding fundraising that you are currently doing through your  
02:38:25 presidential without objection. And finally. Want to ask you.  
02:38:33 Were on a show on February 26, 2021, an interview with Dr. Judy Mickovitz, where you said the  
02:38:40 following, and I quote, we should not be giving black people the same vaccine schedule that's given  
02:38:47 to white.  
02:38:49 Because their immune system is better than ours. Can you please explain what you meant?  
02:38:56 There's a series of studies, I think most of them by Poland.  
02:39:02 To particular antigens.  
02:39:05 That blacks have a much stronger reaction. There's differences in reactions to different products by  
02:39:11 different rates. So I have 17 seconds left. Let me just ask you then. So what different vaccine  
02:39:16 schedule? Would you say I should have received?  
02:39:20 What different vaccine schedule should I receive? The pollen article suggests.  
02:39:28 That blacks need fewer antigens.  
02:39:31 So you get the same measles vaccine. Mr. Kennedy, with all due respect, that is so. Dangerous. Your

02:39:37 voice would be a voice that parents would listen to that is so dangerous.

02:39:43 Because your views are dangerous to our state and to our country.

02:39:48 Do you think science is dangerous?

02:39:52 This is published, peer reviewed studies. I yield.

02:39:57 Senator Collins, who would have been here the whole time, but she was in an intel committee,

02:40:02 senator. Collins thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Kennedy, welcome. First of all,

02:40:10 I agree with you that there needs to be more focus on chronic disease. It's like diabetes like

02:40:18 Alzheimer's.

02:40:21 But it concerns me when I read a quote from you that says I'm going to say to NiH scientists. God

02:40:28 bless you all. Thank you for your public service.

02:40:32 We're going to give infectious disease diseases a break.

02:40:38 For about eight years.

02:40:40 Don't we need to do both?

02:40:43 Don't. Absolutely, senator. The problem is there's been an imbalance.

02:40:48 We've.

02:40:49 All of these. Dollars. Infectious disease and to drug development to make NIH an incubator for the

02:40:57 pharmaceutical industry. And very little a chronic disease. But chronic disease is 92% of deaths in

02:41:03 our country. It's nine out of every \$10 we spent on our budget. Why aren't we devoting at least

02:41:09 equivalent.

02:41:11 Studies to determine the ideology of our chronic disease. It just seems like common sense to me.

02:41:18 I would point out that in many cases, it's Congress rather than hhs who sets the funding levels for

02:41:28 various diseases.

02:41:30 But NIH decides as panels that decide who gets funding, not Congress.

02:41:37 I want to share with you a discussion that I had with.

02:41:42 The main. Pediatric nurse practitioner. She raised the concern that if people are discouraged from

02:41:51 getting their children vaccinated, we will lose the herd immunity. In a classroom. And that means

02:42:02 that a child who. May be immunosuppressed and cannot get a vaccine. Are at risk of being in a

02:42:12 classroom.

02:42:14 With an unvaccinated child.

02:42:17 And thus at risk of getting the infectious disease because we've lost.

02:42:24 The herd immunity. What would be your response to that? My response is that. Vaccine uptake for the

02:42:31 Covid vaccine, for example, is down to 23%, and all vaccines are dropping and they're not doing,

02:42:37 they're doing that because people don't. Believe the government anymore. We need good science, and

02:42:42 I'm going to bring that in. I'm going to restore trust. And now vaccine uptake. Well.

02:42:50 You're certainly correct about what happened with the Covid vaccine.

02:42:54 But let me switch to the polio vaccine. Do you think that the polio vaccine.

02:43:03 Is safe and effective.

02:43:05 Yes, I do. And so would you seek to reduce its availability?

02:43:10 In any way? No, not at all.

02:43:14 The state of Maine has.

02:43:17 Seen a steady and disturbing increase in Lyme disease cases over the past decade. We talked a little

02:43:24 bit about this in my office. In 2023.

02:43:30 Maine had a record number of Lyme disease cases, nearly 3000 reported cases. Fortunately.

02:43:41 There is a promising vaccine trial for Lyme disease that it's underway at main health. In Portland.

02:43:49 Access to aligned disease would be a monumental step forward in reducing the burden of this disease,

02:43:58 which can have lifelong effects. I've seen it in members of my own family.

02:44:06 As it's HHS secretary have confirmed. What influence would you exercise over new vaccine approvals?

02:44:17 Such as? One for Lyme disease, senator? You and I have talked about this issue.

02:44:23 I had Lyme disease. I lived in the epicenter of Lyme disease. Every member of my family.

02:44:29 At my immediate family is headlined.

02:44:31 I had a son whose face was paralyzed for a year. I have a son today who has been suffering with

02:44:39 devastating affection Lyme disease for two years.

02:44:43 There's nobody who will fight harder to find a vaccine or a treatment for Lyme. Disease than me.

02:44:53 I very much appreciate that assurance. And I'm sorry that your own family has been so adversely

02:44:59 affected.

02:45:02 In Maine, we have a lot of people who work outside and work in the woods and ticks are everywhere.

02:45:11 So this is a very important issue to me. Thank you. And to me, too. Senator.

02:45:16 We're almost to the end. Let me acknowledge Senator Moody has also been here the whole time, and so

02:45:22 thank you, Senator Moody.

02:45:27 Yeah.

02:45:29 Just incredible diligence. Thank you both. Senator Sanders and I will.

02:45:34 Have a couple of questions, and then we'll each have a closing statement, and then you're. A long

02:45:38 national nightmare will be over.

02:45:40 Anyway.

02:45:42 First, a couple more of commit type questions.

02:45:46 If you are confirmed, do you commit that you will not work to impound, divert or otherwise? Reduce

02:45:53 any funding appropriated by Congress for the purpose of vaccination programs. Yes. And do you commit

02:46:00 that you will not impose new grant conditions outside of congressional direction for state local or

02:46:06 global entities that in any way limits, restricts, or rescinds access to vaccines. Are vaccine

02:46:13 promotion programs. Yes.

02:46:15 And then the nice thing about listening to all of this.

02:46:19 Let me ask this.

02:46:21 I've been impressed. One, you've handled yourself very well.

02:46:25 I've been impressed that on many things you are familiar with recent medical data.

02:46:32 But on other things.

02:46:35 You haven't been. So let me bring up two things that are very pertinent. Now.

02:46:40 While sitting here, I went up to look at the medical literature. On these issues. And here's a

02:46:46 title.

02:46:48 Why parents say no to having their children vaccinated against measles. A systemic review. Of the

02:46:53 social determinants of parental perceptions on.

02:46:56 MMR vaccine hesitancy, and they found that fear of autism is a major driver for vaccine hesitancy

02:47:06 among those with a college education or higher.

02:47:10 Influenced by Internet social media narratives over physician based vaccine information. I'll go



02:47:15 back to something I said earlier, you got to follow a man. There's a lot of people that look. To

02:47:19 you.

02:47:22 For? Do I get vaccinated or not? People that I kind of know, but here it says it's not just my

02:47:28 anecdote. It's actually out there.

02:47:33 But. When I raised and you said, well, if I show you the data, you'll change your because I ask,

02:47:37 will you unequivocally, without qualification, say that measles vaccine. Does not cause autism. And

02:47:42 you said if I show you the data,

02:47:44 I will publicly apologize. So here is. Wrong. Here's a meta analysis from 2014, and you quoted

02:47:52 Cochrane on several occasions, which for the people watching is a meta analysis. Meta meaning they

02:47:57 look at everything, and then they come to. A conclusion based upon as much facts as they can get.

02:48:03 And here is such a study and the title tells it all.

Vaccines. Are not associated with autism.

02:48:11 An evidence based meta analysis of case control and cohort studies, and they ended up looking at

02:48:15 five cohort studies with roughly 1.2 million children.

02:48:20 Now, this is from 2014, and it has a whole bunch of articles that references.

02:48:26 And then I got a text from a former employee of the NIH. I emphasize the former. Who says that?

02:48:33 In early in the President Trump's term, you and colleagues sent 90 papers.

02:48:39 For review by people at nih.

02:48:42 They felt like these, the NIH folks felt that without exception, they were.

02:48:49 Severely lacking. Methodologically and are found that they indeed showed the safety of these

02:48:54 vaccines. We tried to engage Mr. Kennedy, but his colleagues refused to acknowledge the expertise of

02:48:59 dozens of NIH scientists. We made about those papers.

02:49:05 Now, you're a smart guy. You're reading the medical literature, and you're. Coming up with the

02:49:11 recent medical literature on certain issues, but here is both older article.

02:49:19 Summarizing lots of older articles. That have come out since the original refuted Wakefield article

02:49:25 in the Lancet regarding measles and autism. And here is somebody.

02:49:32 Who?

02:49:34 Said, but somebody who said that.

02:49:37 Previously. You've had this presented to you, so back to me. I'm a doc. Trying to understand.

02:49:45 Convince me that you will become the public health advocate.

02:49:51 But not just. Churn old information so that there's never a conclusion.

02:49:56 As senator Hassan suggested. But that will become the influencer for people to believe. No, there's.

02:50:03 1.25 million kids studied, and there's no autism associated with measles.

02:50:10 You tell me. You see what my question is in there?

02:50:15 I'm going to be advocate for strong science.

02:50:19 You show me those scientific studies?

02:50:22 And you and I can meet about it.

02:50:25 And there are other studies as well, and I'd love to show those to you.

02:50:32 It was a study that came out. Last week. Of 47,009 year olds in the Medicaid system in Florida.

02:50:40 I think a Louisiana scientist called moss.

02:50:45 The opposite.

02:50:48 There are other studies out there. I just want to follow the science.

02:50:52 And I will do if the science says, and I am wrong about what I've said. In the past. As I said, I

02:50:58 will publicly apologize.

02:51:01 There's many times I've been wrong about science. If you look at my instagram. Account when I'm

02:51:05 wrong, I apologize for it. And I say I was wrong. I don't have any problems. Science.

02:51:13 Is a process of challenging hypotheses with new evidence.

02:51:18 And scientists have to be evident meant when they're wrong.

02:51:22 Epidemiological studies.

02:51:26 The Institute of Medicine.

02:51:29 Has added repeatedly at 2013 2017, when they investigated this, has asked CDC to do certain studies.

02:51:36 Animal studies.

02:51:38 Observational studies, studies of the vaccine safety data link. CDC has not done that.

02:51:45 I want them to do that. And I want the best science I can guarantee you.

02:51:51 On my word of honor. If you show me science that says that I'm wrong, I'm going to say, I was wrong.

02:51:58 I don't have any problem. There's nothing that would make me happier.

02:52:03 We need to be able to look at the science and get IOM involved in the National Academy of sciences.

02:52:08 They're the ultimate arbiter of safety.

02:52:13 One of the things we need to do, I think.

02:52:16 Is a subject that we haven't talked about here.

02:52:19 Why don't we know what's causing this epidemic? Why hasn't CDC been looking at other hypotheses. To

02:52:26 determine the ideology of why we've had this dramatic. 1000% increase in this disease that is

02:52:33 destroying our kids is probably the biggest issue. Why don't we know the answer after 30 years?

02:52:41 Of steady rises in autism rates. I don't know. We know the answer to that. We? Should know the

02:52:46 answer.

02:52:52 What was that last article? Did you mention that article?

02:52:57 Is by mossen. M a w s o n.

02:53:02 And it's regarding measles and. What? No.

02:53:06 It looks at the entire schedule and it says,

02:53:09 It's a study of nine year old boys, 47,009 year old boys from the Florida healthcare data, okay?

02:53:17 Senator Sanders.

02:53:20 Thank you. And I find myself in the unusual and uncomfortable position. Of having to agree with

02:53:27 senator Cassidy's line of questioning.

02:53:32 Mr. Kennedy in an interview in July 2023.

02:53:38 You stated, quote, I do believe autism does come from vaccines. And you have the end of quote and

02:53:46 you have praised a gentleman named Andrew Wakefield. For his research.

02:53:54 What studies you talk about? The need to be science based. Got our information. Good information to

02:53:59 make. Decisions.

02:54:02 What studies have you utilized to come to the conclusion that vaccines cause autism? I'm happy. To

02:54:10 sit down with you. Donald, please, just answer me that.

02:54:14 Look at the Mason study, senator.

02:54:18 Yeah, I will. And that was published?

02:54:21 But. I wouldn't rest on a single study. All studies can be. Don't mean to be rude. I don't have a

02:54:27 lot of time.

02:54:29 I just heard you say you could not be happier if you were proved wrong.

02:54:35 Mr. Chairman, I asked to put into the record 16 studies done.

02:54:42 By scientists and doctors all over the world.

02:54:46 Saying that vaccines do not cause autism. Are you happy with that? Objection. Look at the Iom.

02:54:51 Assessment of.

02:54:55 Senator.

02:54:58 Let me get to one. Don't have a lot of time. I apologize. I'm happy to talk to you at another time.

02:55:02 Don't have a lot of time.

02:55:05 Let's talk about Covid.

02:55:07 And I just want clarity on the issue. And again, I apologize. You have to be brief. We don't have a

02:55:11 lot of time.

02:55:13 Scientists have estimated that the Covid vaccine saved 3 million lives. President Trump said Covid

02:55:21 vaccine was one of the great miracles of the ages, end quote.

02:55:26 You have said the Covid vaccine was the deadliest vaccine ever made, end of quote. Was. The Covid

02:55:33 vaccine. The deadliest vaccine ever made.

02:55:37 The reason I said that, Senator Sanders, is. Because. More reports on the bear system, on the

02:55:42 vaccine adverse event reporting system, which is the only surveillance system.

02:55:49 And there were more reports of injuries.

02:55:53 All of the vaccines combined. Was it? The scientists had to save 3 million.

02:56:01 I don't know because we don't have a good surveillance system.

02:56:05 You disagree with the scientific community that.

02:56:08 I'm agnostic because we don't have the science to make that determination, really? Okay.

02:56:14 Prescription drug prices in America, as you know. And by the way, I think President Trump did an

02:56:19 extraordinary job on warp speed because he wasn't just focusing on that one intervention, he was

02:56:25 focusing. He called it a miracle. But you have cast doubts on its efficacy. All right, prescription

02:56:30 drugs.

02:56:32 We're going to make America healthy. I agree with you that. We have to need a revolution in the

02:56:38 nature of food in America.

02:56:41 Physical exercise, et cetera, very, very important. But there are people who are going to get sick.

02:56:47 And they have to go to the doctor and find out why. One  
out of four Americans today cannot afford  
02:56:53 the prescription drugs their doctors prescribe, because we  
pay by far the highest prices in the  
02:56:58 world for prescription drugs.  
02:57:01 We made some progress under the Biden administration. Of  
negotiating prescription drug prices with  
02:57:08 pharma. First pharm that's ever happened. Now yesterday  
you told me that the White House was going  
02:57:13 to issue something affirming. Their support for continuing  
those Medicare negotiations turned out  
02:57:19 not to be quite accurate. They came up with some bland  
statement couldn't be written by farmer. Very  
02:57:24 specific questions. Do you believe and will? You insist  
that. Medicare continue to negotiate prices  
02:57:33 with the pharmaceutical industry so we can substantially  
lower prescription drug cost in America,  
02:57:38 President Trump has made it very clear to me that he wants  
to negotiate. Negotiate it's. A big word,  
02:57:43 Bobby. It's a big word. It's the word you just. Use. Yeah.  
02:57:47 But no, I use defend a particular law. Will you defend the  
law?  
02:57:53 In the Inflation Reduction act, which already is  
negotiating prescription drug price. President  
02:57:58 Trump wants us to negotiate drug pricing. So you're not  
telling me that you will defend the law that  
02:58:05 we passed, which has already had significant success.  
Well, Congress. I'm going to comply with the  
02:58:10 law, senator. Congress has the law. I'm swearing an oath  
to constitution. I'm going to comply.  
02:58:15 You're? Going to have a significant influence on  
healthcare policy if you are.  
02:58:22 Let me just say this in conclusion.  
02:58:26 Chairman Cassidy.  
02:58:30 President Trump and Mr. Kennedy are quite right when they  
say that our system is broken. They're  
02:58:37 right. Our economic system today is broken. Three people  
on more wealth than the bottom half of  
02:58:44 American Society. Wages have been stagnant for american  
workers. For 50 years. Economy is broken.  
02:58:52 Our political system is broken.  
02:58:56 And corrupt. You have a handful of billionaires in both  
political parties who contribute huge  
02:59:01 amounts of money to elect candidates in this room  
throughout the United States Congress. That is a

02:59:07 broken political system. And a real threat to democracy.

02:59:13 Our healthcare system is broken.

02:59:18 And it's broken for some of the reasons the Mr. Kennedy indicated. We have not paid attention to the

02:59:23 fact that we have massive amounts of chronic disease. We have not answered the question. Why, in the

02:59:28 richest country in the history of the world. Our life expectancy is lower than it is in countries

02:59:34 far poorer than we are. So I think in many ways, President Trump and Mr. Kennedy have asked some of

02:59:41 the right questions. Problem is, their answers will only make a bad situation worse. So let me ask

02:59:50 Mr. Kennedy again.

02:59:53 If we want to make America healthy, will you assure the american people that you will fight to do

03:00:00 what every other major country on earth does, guarantee health care to every single American.

03:00:08 I'm going to make America healthier than other countries in the world right now, will you guarantee?

03:00:12 Do what every other major country does. It's a simple question, and by the way, Bernie.

03:00:20 The problem of corruption is not just in the federal agency. It's in Congress, too, almost. All the

03:00:26 members of this panel are accepting, including yourself, are accepting millions of dollars from the

03:00:31 pharmaceutical industry. Oh, no.

03:00:34 Protecting their interest.

03:00:36 Oh, I thought that that would go. No.

03:00:39 I ran for president like you. I got millions. I know. Millions of contributions. They did not come.

03:00:46 From the executives. Not one nickel of pack money from the pharmaceutical they came from. Work 2020.

03:00:53 In 2020. You were the single largest. Because I had several pharmacists for money from workers all

03:01:01 over this country. Workers?

03:01:04 Not a nickel from corporate with a single largest. Pharmaceutical dollars.

03:01:11 From workers in 1.5 million? Yeah. Out of 200 million. All right.

03:01:17 But. You have not answered last question. You have not answered my question, Mr. Chairman.

03:01:24 Healthy if you don't guarantee. We're literally three minutes over here now.

03:01:30 How long does it keep going? At some time, you're just better in the witness, not battering the

03:01:33 witnesses.

03:01:34 You're getting excited at him. You're going at it just like anybody else would. Come to. Bernie's

03:01:39 going over.

03:01:50 Before I ever entered politics, before I was ever thinking about running for office, I practiced

03:01:55 medicine for 30 years. I worked in public hospitals in California, Louisiana. Specialized in liver

03:02:00 disease, caring for those who otherwise would not have had a specialist, if you will. Dedicating my

03:02:07 life to saving lives. That is being a doctor.

03:02:12 That ethic guides me now. In my opening statement.

03:02:17 I told the story of my patient.

03:02:21 An 18 year old girl.

03:02:23 With acute liver failure from hepatitis B. Be an air ambulance to LSU Shreveport Hospital for a

03:02:28 liver transplant. Now, let me finish the story.

03:02:32 Her mother wasn't allowed to fly in the helicopter, so her mother drove the 3 hours. From Baton

03:02:37 Rouge, Shreveport. Now, when she arrived, they let her visit her daughter before she went back. To

03:02:42 the or. And the mom goes in to say a prayer, squeezes the daughter's hand, the daughter's. Eyes open

03:02:52 and she said, mama.

03:02:56 And the daughter began to recover.

03:02:59 Powerful story. Powerful story with a happy ending. But as a doctor,

03:03:05 I saw endings not so happy. I just had a friend text me. Two children died. In an intensive care

03:03:13 unit in a bat Rouge hospital from vaccine preventable diseases.

03:03:18 This past month.

03:03:21 So my concern is that if there's any false note, any undermining of a mama's trust in vaccines.

03:03:29 Another person will die from a vaccine preventable disease.

03:03:34 Now you've got a megaphone. Maybe you and Bernie. Bobby and Bernie.

03:03:41 Of everybody in this room, the two of you.

03:03:46 Have the biggest followings, tremendous credibility. And with that influence comes a great

03:03:51 responsibility. Now my responsibility. Is to learn. Try and determine if you can be trusted to

03:04:01 support the best public health.

03:04:06 A worthy movement called Maha to improve the health of Americans.

03:04:12 Or to undermine it, always asking for more evidence. And never accepting the evidence that is there.

03:04:18 I looked at the article from Dr. Malson and it seems to have some issues I'll just put that to the

03:04:24 side. And that is why I've been struggling with your nomination. There are issues where man ultra

03:04:30 processed food, obesity. We are. We are sympathico. We're completely aligned. And as someone who has

03:04:36 discussed immunizations with thousands of people, I understand that mothers want reassurance that

03:04:42 the vaccine their child is receiving is necessary, safe. And effective. We agree on that point, the

03:04:49 two of us, but we've approached it differently, and I think I can say that. I've approached it using

03:04:55 the preponderance of evidence to reassure. And you have? Approached using selected evidence to cast

03:05:01 doubt. Now, put differently, we're about the same age. Does a 70 year old man, 71 year old man who

03:05:08 spent decades criticizing vaccines and. Who's financially vested in finding fault with vaccines. Can

03:05:15 he change his attitudes and approach now? That. He'll have the most important. Position influencing

03:05:23 vaccine policy in the United States.

03:05:28 Where you continue what you have been, or will you overturn a new leaf at age 70?

03:05:34 I recognize, man. If you come out unequivocally. Vaccines are safe. It does not. Cause autism. That

03:05:41 would have an incredible impact.

03:05:44 That's your power.

03:05:47 So what's it going to be? Will it be using the credibility to support.

03:05:52 Lots of articles, or will it be using credibility to undermine.

03:05:57 And I got to figure that out from my vote.

03:06:02 You have the power to help rebuild, to help public health institutions re earn the trust of the

03:06:08 american people.

03:06:12 Now, let's be political. I'm a Republican.

03:06:16 I represent the amazing state of Louisiana. And as a patriotic American, I want President Trump's

03:06:21 policies to succeed in making America and Americans more secure, more prosperous, healthier. But if



03:06:31 there's. Someone that is not vaccinated because of  
policies or attitudes you bring to the  
03:06:35 department. And there's another 18 year old who dies of a  
vaccine preventable disease helicoptered.  
03:06:41 Away, God forbid, dies. It'll be blown up in the press.  
The greatest tragedy will be. Her death. But  
03:06:47 I can also tell you. An associated tragedy. Well, that  
will. Cast a shadow over President Trump's  
03:06:53 legacy, which I want to be the absolute best legacy. It  
can be.  
03:06:59 So that's my dilemma, man. And you maybe hear me hearing  
from you over the weekend. You may be  
03:07:04 hearing from me over the weekend. I once again, thank you  
for your time.  
03:07:09 And I yield to my ranking member.  
03:07:15 Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and thank you very much for your  
job today. In conducting this very, very  
03:07:21 important hearing.  
03:07:25 Let me reiterate.  
03:07:28 My concerns.  
03:07:31 Every person on this panel, and I would hope everybody in  
America wants to make us the healthiest  
03:07:37 country on earth.  
03:07:40 And I applaud Mr. Kennedy for raising the issues and  
talking about some very important truths.  
03:07:49 But what I am not hearing from him. Are some very specific  
policy issues.  
03:07:56 That. We absolutely need if we're going to. Make America  
healthy.  
03:08:02 It is unquestionable. That when 68,068,000 Americans die  
because they can't afford to go. To a  
03:08:09 doctor. He got to deal with that. And I have not heard one  
word about the need for universal health  
03:08:15 care that exists in every country on earth.  
03:08:20 When one out of four people can't afford prescription  
drugs because the pharmaceutical industry is  
03:08:25 ripping us off and charging us ten times more in some  
cases than the people in other countries. I  
03:08:30 have not heard the definitive answer. I need that. We're  
not going to pay the highest. Prices in the  
03:08:35 world for prescription drugs.  
03:08:39 And one of the points I think that Mr. Kennedy made, which  
is right.  
03:08:43 Healthcare is not just medical care. It's a lot more. Talk  
about the food industry. We have held a

03:08:48 hearing. Senator Castino held a hearing. A couple of  
months ago where we made the point that the  
03:08:53 food industry is, in fact, Poisoning our kids with  
addictive food that is leading to obesity,  
03:09:02 diabetes, heart conditions, et cetera.  
03:09:06 And I hope.  
03:09:09 That our congress and the White House will have the  
courage to take on a very powerful food.  
03:09:15 Industry. And demand that the products that they sell our  
kids.  
03:09:21 Are, in fact, healthy and non addictive in many ways, what  
the food industry is doing today. Is what  
03:09:25 the tobacco industry did 50 or 60 years ago. And we talk  
about making America healthy today again,  
03:09:33 it's not just doctor care, medical care. We have millions  
of people working for starvation wages.  
03:09:40 You cannot be healthy if you're working. 50 or 60 hours a  
week and you can't afford. The rent that  
03:09:47 your landlord is taught you. Stress kills. Stress makes us  
sick. So, Mr. Chairman, let me just say  
03:09:54 this. I think the issues that have been raised.  
03:09:59 In this hearing today are of enormous importance.  
03:10:02 I look forward to working with you and other members of  
this committee to make sure that we develop  
03:10:08 the policies that have the courage to take on very  
powerful and wealthy special interests. So in  
03:10:14 fact that we can make America healthy. Thank you. This  
concludes our hearing for any senators who  
03:10:20 wish to ask additional questions. Questions for the record  
will be due tomorrow, on Friday, January  
03:10:24 31, at 05:00 p.m.  
03:10:42 It's a nightmare. It's a nightmare. I ended up in a  
wheelchair, completely seized. Up. Thought I was  
03:10:47 stroking. Couldn't walk. We learned how to walk. Games.  
Kidneys are. Shutting down. She had five  
03:10:53 Pfizer Covid vaccinations. She never woke up. This. Is the  
light that I have now is when you start  
03:10:59 thinking, okay, how do I end my life, something really  
similar, really, really sinister was going  
03:11:05 on. These were fundamental violations of human rights, so  
we here at children's health of friends  
03:11:11 all going to go back out on the road. We are going to fix  
it. Every single one of you. What have you  
03:11:16 been to? Those are my. Eyes. This is a huge humor. This is  
the bottom plane long that is filled with

03:11:23 blood. They said it was the most aggressive cancer that they've seen. I held on to my husband. For

03:11:28 the very last time. And I stayed with him until his body got cold. I told him that I loved him.

03:11:35 Not to be afraid. What have your children been through, Covid? Through all of the issues that we've

03:11:42 had over these last two years. We want to hear all of your stories. It was hard seeing 25 year olds

03:11:47 coming in with heart attacks, with strokes because they received the vaccine. The success rate of

03:11:52 these patients getting better was next to zero.

03:11:56 There's something wrong. Something has happened and you have to consider the vaccine. This is a

03:12:00 pandemic of the unvaccinated. You showed up here and you're unvaccinated, you will. Suffer for

03:12:07 having not done what we had to do.

03:12:11 That to me was a crime against humanity and a violation of my oath. We will continue, children's.

03:12:16 Health defense will continue, and we will not stop until. There's justice, and it's never, ever

03:12:21 happens again.

03:12:55 You're watching CHDV bringing you up to the minute programming you won't. See anywhere else. All of

03:13:01 our shows are completely user supported and rely on generous support from viewers. Like you. Every

03:13:06 dollar you give helps us broadcast the truth to countless viewers around the world.

03:13:12 This is incredibly important, world shaking stuff that's going on right now. Health is now going to

03:13:17 become the searching out and the dealing with pandemics. This is the grossest violation of the

03:13:22 Nuremberg code. This is total control, and we reject it. We embrace freedom we have now. People in

03:13:29 positions of medical authority who are directly. Lying to the american public and the public at

03:13:33 large.

03:13:35 There's a bigger agenda driving this, and this agenda is about life and death, you guys. Have been

03:13:39 proven right. It's unreal. I'm never taking another vaccine again. My whole life. Please consider

03:13:45 making a contribution today to keep this one of a kind programming going strong. Thank you.