

July 28, 2025

VIA EMAIL AND REGULAR MAIL

The Honorable Senator Richard Blumenthal
90 State House Square, 10th floor
Hartford, CT 06103

Dear Senator Blumenthal:

On behalf of Children's Health Defense (CHD), thank you for your insightful comments at the recent hearing of the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, *Voices of the Vaccine Injured*, on July 15, 2025.

We are writing to you to request a meeting, preferably at your in-district office, with constituents and CHD leadership to continue the conversation you began at the hearing.

As the ranking Democratic member of the Subcommittee, you made several important points regarding the relationship between the vaccine industry and the federal government. Those points included:

1. Telling Senator Johnson that you would co-sponsor legislation with him banning direct-to-consumer advertising of prescription pharmaceutical products;
2. Stating clearly that you are concerned with “any industry” having blanket immunity, which includes vaccine manufacturers;
3. Questioning whether the Vaccine Injury Compensation Program needs reform; and
4. Calling for an investigation into the claims of CDC scientist William Thompson, who witnessed the destruction of CDC documents related to vaccines several years ago by fellow CDC scientists within the CDC.

We need to take action on each of the critical points you raised if we are to ensure American children's safety. We submit the information below for practical next steps.

1. Direct-to-Consumer (DTC) Advertising

There are only two countries that allow DTC advertising of pharmaceutical prescription drug products: New Zealand and the United States. Our nation simply needs to join the rest of the world to stop pharmaceutical prescription drug products from being dangled in front of consumers like bacon strips before hungry, injured dogs.

We were extremely encouraged during the hearing to see you point to the Subcommittee chair Senator Ron Johnson to state that you would be willing to cosponsor a bill on this. We would love to see this become a reality and look forward to suggestions and direction from you and your staff as to how CHD and your constituents can help bring this to fruition.

2. Liability Shield

The 1986 National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act (NCVIA) grants blanket immunity to vaccine manufacturers for deaths and injuries caused by their products. As you noted during the hearing, this indemnity is highly questionable. Most industries are motivated to ensure their products are safe because the financial implications of harm are staggering. In taking away this critical consumer protection, manufacturers place less emphasis on safety. This is not in the best interest of the American people, especially not children. We need to find a path forward that is truly beneficial for all Americans, especially those who experience injury after vaccination.

It is of interest to note that Representative Gosar has just introduced bill HR 4668 titled "[End the Vaccine Carve Out](#)," which deals with these issues. CHD is a supporter of this bill.

3. The Vaccine Injury Compensation Program

The NCVIA created the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program (VICP), also referred to as "Vaccine Court." Intended to be an expeditious, non-adversarial system to compensate individuals who are harmed by vaccines, it has proven to be anything but. Instead, the families of children injured or killed by vaccines are pitted against U.S. Department of Justice attorneys in petitions that can take years to adjudicate in the Court of Federal Claims. This special liability carve-out for vaccine manufacturers has proven detrimental to the American people. Despite the many roadblocks placed in front of families embroiled in this system, the VICP has paid out nearly [\\$5.5 billion](#) since 1988.

The major problem is that this setup has incentivized vaccine manufacturers to disregard safety because litigation is no longer their problem; it's the problem of the federal government. And it has also incentivized the federal government to minimize both the money paid out to injured parties as well as the reality of vaccine harm.

4. CDC Whistleblower William Thompson

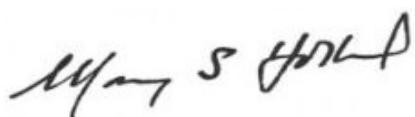
During the hearing, CHD's Chief Scientific Officer Dr. Brian Hooker discussed the controversy surrounding a current CDC employee, Dr. William Thompson. Thompson became a whistleblower when he disclosed more than ten years ago that the CDC had conducted studies proving African American boys who received the Measles-Mumps-Rubella vaccine (MMR) before age three, as the CDC recommends, are 3.86 times more likely to receive an autism diagnosis than those who received the vaccine after three years of age. Thompson also disclosed that the CDC destroyed all records of the studies leading to this shocking data. Knowing this to be highly illegal, Dr. Thompson saved his copy of the study and eventually shared it with Dr. Hooker.

This information was eventually shared on the floor of Congress by [Congressman Bill Posey](#) in 2015, however, an investigation never ensued.

Thank you, Senator Blumenthal, for sharing your incredibly pertinent background as Connecticut Attorney General, prosecuting Big Tobacco and litigating against Purdue Pharmaceuticals in Connecticut. Your truth-seeking and deep commitment to justice are exactly what this thorny issue needs. We are grateful to you for opening the door to a bipartisan conversation about the pharmaceutical industry, vaccine safety, and the injury compensation program.

We look forward to discussing this issue with you in person and introducing you to constituent stakeholders who are committed to making sure we find solutions to these urgent matters.

Sincerely yours,



Mary Holland, J.D., CEO of Children's Health Defense



Dr. Brian Hooker, PhD, Chief Scientific Officer of Children's Health Defense



Polly Tommey, Director of CHD.TV