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NHMA Concerned Over RFK Jr’s Confirmation to HHS Secretary

Largest Latino Medical Association in the Country Stands Ready to Uphold Scientific Standards

WASHINGTON — The National Hispanic Medical Association (NHMA) expresses deep concern over the confirmation of Robert F. Kennedy Jr. as the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS). While he stated during his confirmation hearings that he supports the measles and polio vaccines, Mr. Kennedy has been a vocal skeptic of vaccines throughout his career—a stance that contradicts overwhelming scientific evidence and threatens the foundation of public health.

Latino communities already face significant health care disparities, including lower vaccination rates due to systemic barriers, misinformation, and historical distrust in medical institutions. The spread of vaccine skepticism from the nation’s top health official risks exacerbating these challenges, putting millions at increased risk for preventable diseases.

As physicians and health advocates, we urge Secretary Kennedy to prioritize evidence-based policies that protect public health, particularly for marginalized communities that have historically been left behind. These communities deserve leadership that strengthens—not weakens—trust in science and healthcare.

We stand ready to assist, guide, and collaborate with Secretary Kennedy and HHS in the development and continuation of evidence-based medical practices, but we will also hold

the administration accountable when established scientific principles are not followed. NHMA will continue to be guided by its mission to empower physicians and medical professionals as we advance health care outcomes for all our communities.

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The National Hispanic Medical Association (NHMA) is a non-profit organization representing the interests of over 50,000 licensed Hispanic physicians in the United States. NHMA aims to improve the health of Hispanic and other underserved populations through advocacy, research, and education. By addressing the unique healthcare challenges faced by these communities, NHMA strives to achieve health equity for all.