JAKE AUCHINCLOSS 4TH DISTRICT, MASSACHUSETTS

> HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENERGY SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT



Congress of the United States House of Representatives Mashington, DC 20515

June 16, 2025

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Calley Means Co-Founder True Medicine Inc. 1800 E 4th Street, Unit 101 Austin, TX 78702

Dear Mr. Means,

I write to request information regarding your role as a "special government employee" (SGE) at the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and your coinciding leadership at True Medicine Inc. (TrueMed). You have not been required to disclose your financial details or where they intersect with the policies you are advancing.¹ Therefore, your responses will provide clarity regarding the insulation of HHS from any potential conflicts of interest given your co-occurring work in the public and private sectors.

You have been appointed as a White House advisor² and serve as a Special Government Employee to HHS Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. As a leading policy-maker behind the Trump Administration's "Make America Healthy Again" (MAHA) initiative, you have significant influence in both regulation and legislation while your business stands to benefit from changes to that regulation and legislation. Given the pattern of self-dealing and conflicts of interest throughout this administration,^{3 4 5 6 7}the public deserves to know whether you and your business,

¹ Perrone, Matthew. "Takeaways from AP's Report on Financial Interests of RFK Jr. Adviser Who Runs Wellness Platform." *AP News*, AP News, 10 June 2025,

apnews.com/article/calley-means-rfk-maha-wellness-ethics-8bbe34cb952f31bb8b6002144bb2b975

² Reuters, et al. "White House Names Kennedy Ally Means as Health Adviser, Source Says." Edited by Alan Barona et al., *Reuters*, 18 Mar. 2025,

www.reuters.com/world/us/white-house-hires-calley-means-special-government-adviser-bloomberg-news-reports-20 25-03-18/.

³ Dunleavy, Kevin. "RFK Jr.'s Referral Fees in Litigation over Merck's Gardasil Raise Conflict-of-Interest Questions: Reports." *Fierce Pharma*, 23 Jan. 2025,

www.fiercepharma.com/pharma/rfk-jrs-referral-fees-raise-conflict-interest-concerns-nyt.

⁴ Backman, Maurie, and Ellen B Kennedy. "Will Dr. Oz Push Medicare Advantage Plans Now That He's Confirmed?" *Kiplinger*, Kiplinger, 27 Feb. 2025,

www.kiplinger.com/retirement/medicare/will-dr-oz-push-medicare-advantage-plans-if-confirmed.

⁵ Perrone, Matthew. "Takeaways from AP's Report on Financial Interests of RFK Jr. Adviser Who Runs Wellness Platform." *AP News*, AP News, 10 June 2025,

apnews.com/article/calley-means-rfk-maha-wellness-ethics-8bbe34cb952f31bb8b6002144bb2b975.

⁶ Rascoe, Ayesha, and Will Stone. "Dr. Casey Means, Trump's Pick for Surgeon General, Faces Criticism across the Spectrum." *NPR*, 11 May 2025,

www.npr.org/2025/05/11/nx-s1-5393721/dr-casey-means-trumps-pick-for-surgeon-general-faces-criticism-across-th e-spectrum.

⁷ Karlin-Smith, Sarah. "US FDA Commissioner's Office Plans Involvement in Many Approvals in Potential Major Change." *Citeline News and Insights*, 30 Apr. 2025,

TrueMed, are operating ethically.

I request your response to the following questions regarding the steps that you, the Administration, and TrueMed have taken to ensure an ethical and legal separation of interests and proprietary information no later than **Friday**, **June 27**, **2025**.

- 1. <u>Policy Decisions Regarding the Legislative Process</u>: TrueMed creates partnerships with businesses to sell health and wellness products, many of which are not regulated or FDA approved.⁸ Offered as a service are "letters of medical necessity" (LMNs) that enable patients to use pre-tax dollars from their Health Savings Account (HSA) or Flexible Spending Account (FSA) to purchase these products. In fact, you have publicly stated that the role of TrueMed is to route federal funds out of providing for government programs and into expanding HSAs.⁹ Most recently, the Republican reconciliation package (*One Big Beautiful Bill Act*) contained many provisions to expand HSA use significantly, benefitting TrueMed's business model.¹⁰
 - a. Can you please explain the extent to which you were involved in the drafting, revising, reviewing, or provision of feedback regarding the *One Big Beautiful Bill Act*?
 - b. Please provide any communication between TrueMed and yourself related to this legislation, including but not limited to emails, chat or text messages, board meeting agendas and minutes, and memoranda.
- 2. <u>Engagement in Drafting of Executive Orders:</u> The Trump Administration issued an Executive Order on February 13, 2025, entitled, *Establishing the President's Make America Healthy Again Commission.*¹¹ The EO includes a provision that health agencies must focus on reversing chronic disease by ensuring "the availability of expanded treatment options and the flexibility for health insurance coverage to provide benefits that support beneficial lifestyle changes and disease prevention," ultimately suggesting increased revenue for companies like TrueMed.
 - a. Can you please explain to what extent you were involved in the drafting, revising, reviewing, or otherwise providing feedback regarding the Executive Order, *Establishing the President's Make America Healthy Again Commission*?
 - b. Please provide any communications between yourself and representatives and/or employees of TrueMed related to this policy issue, including but not limited to emails, chat or text messages, board meeting agendas and minutes, and memoranda.
- 3. <u>Ethical Concerns Regarding Leveraging Your Government Appointment:</u> A supplements company filed an official complaint with the Office of Special Counsel,

insights.citeline.com/pink-sheet/agency-leadership/us-fda/us-fda-commissioners-office-plans-involvement-in-many-approvals-in-potential-major-change-JFPWOQ2VF5D2JAFKXKGK54REZU/.

⁸ Perrone, Matthew. "Takeaways from AP's Report on Financial Interests of RFK Jr. Adviser Who Runs Wellness Platform." *AP News*, AP News, 10 June 2025,

apnews.com/article/calley-means-rfk-maha-wellness-ethics-8bbe34cb952f31bb8b6002144bb2b975 ⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ Eban, Katherine. "The Dizzying Rise of Maha Warrior Calley Means, RFK Jr.'s Right-Hand Man." *Vanity Fair*, 30 May 2025, www.vanityfair.com/news/story/calley-means-rfk-jrs-maha-rise.

¹¹ Executive Order. No. 14212, 2025.

HHS Office of Civil Rights; HHS Office of Inspector General; and the Federal Trade Commission, on May 12, 2025.¹² This competing company alleged that you used your government position to pressure them into transacting with TrueMed. Specifically, the allegations state that you threatened the involvement of National Institutes of Health (NIH) Director Jay Bhattacharya and Secretary Kennedy during negotiations.

- a. Have you recused yourself from any of TrueMed's governance activities, such as soliciting business partnerships?
- b. In your role as an SGE, have you signed an Executive Branch Personnel Public Financial Disclosure Report (OGE Form 278e) and/or a supplemental Periodic Transaction Report (OGE Form 278-T)?¹³
- c. What was the nature of your and/or your Board's involvement with the transaction negotiations with The Wellness Company?

Ensuring health care accountability includes guaranteeing that all these conflicts of interest have, in fact, been resolved. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact my staff, Nikita Varman, at <u>nikita.varman@mail.house.gov</u> or at 202-225-5934.

Thank you for your attention and prompt response.

Sincerely,

Jo Dala.

Jake Auchincloss

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

¹² Barnes, Daniel. "Wellness CEO Files Ethics Complaint against Top RFK Jr. Adviser." *Politico*, 12 May 2025, www.politico.com/news/2025/05/12/calley-means-wellness-ethics-complaint-hhs-00342230.

¹³ U.S. Office of Government Ethics. "Public Financial Disclosure Guide | Introduction." *USOGE* | *Introduction*, Nov. 2024, www.oge.gov/web/278eGuide.nsf/Introduction.