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Hon. Randy McNally Lieutenant Governor and Speaker of the Senate Tennessee General Assembly 700 Cordell Hull Bldg. Nashville, TN 37243

Hon. Cameron Sexton Speaker of the House Tennessee General Assembly 425 Rep. John Lewis Way N. Suite 600 Cordell Hull Bldg. Nashville, TN 37243

Dear Lieutenant Governor McNally and Speaker Sexton,

Since 2021, Consumers' Research has educated consumers about the dangers of woke institutions pushing an activist agenda while betraying their customers. This year, Consumers' Research expanded our <u>consumer initiative</u> to include the hospitals nationwide that are prioritizing political ideologies over patients. As part of this campaign, we targeted Vanderbilt University Medical Center (VUMC) for attempting to hide its radical policies from patients, consumers, and the general public.

As you are aware, you have accepted financial contributions from the Tennessee Hospital Association (THA), an organization actively promoting radical policies such as Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) and "health equity" through its Council on Inclusion and Health Equity. This council explicitly aims to advance "equity of care."

One of THA's prominent member hospitals, VUMC, actively serves on the THA's Council on Inclusion and Health Equity. This is further proof that VUMC is still promoting a political agenda and pushing policies such as DEI, but doing it out of the public eye to avoid consequences. Our campaign titled "What is Vanderbilt University Medical Center Hiding," detailed VUMC's attempts to conceal its radical agenda through password-protecting webpages detailing policies, resources, and programs that included its DEI and climate-related goals and outright deleting others. These actions, coupled with its strong ties to the THA suggest a deliberate effort to push a radical political agenda through healthcare policy—efforts that likely represent just the beginning of a broader issue. This should be alarming to you and your constiuents who rely on hospitals to provide exceptional care to patients, free of a political agenda.

This is why Consumers' Research has significant concerns that your acceptance of THA's DEI Dollars signals an organizational effort to prevent state investigations into hospitals, like VUMC, that have faced <u>criticism</u> for prioritizing equity over healthcare and <u>providing</u> irreversible gender transition procedures to minors.

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Senator Ferrell Haile

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