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June 17, 2025

The Honorable Gretchen Whitmer
Governor of Michigan
P.O. Box 30013
Lansing, Michigan 48909

Dear Governor Whitmer,

Today, Consumers' Research, the nation's oldest consumer advocacy organization, is issuing a *Consumer Warning* focused on nonprofit hospital systems across the United States using taxpayer-sponsored resources to fund ideologically charged policies. As part of this campaign, we focus on Henry Ford Health for prioritizing Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI), gender ideology, and environmental activism, which run counter to Michigander's values.

As noted in the report, many nonprofit hospital systems have leveraged numerous funding streams from the federal government and benefits from their tax-exempt status to advance controversial political and social causes rather than serve their community. This means that taxpayers are wrongly left footing the bill for hospitals' political activism.

Nonprofit health system Henry Ford Health took in revenues in excess of [\\$7.8 billion](#) in 2023 with CEO Robert G. Riney receiving an annual salary of more than \$4.4 million. This all comes as Henry Ford Health is prioritizing a political agenda such as performing sex-change procedures on kids, weaving DEI into everything they do, and pushing a radical climate agenda.

Since 2021, Consumers' Research has raised the alarm and educated consumers through the [Consumers First Initiative](#) about the dangers of woke capitalism and how institutions and companies pushing an activist agenda are betraying their customers. Recently, we expanded our consumer education [initiative](#) to include hospitals nationwide that are prioritizing political ideology over patients. Just like in companies and academia, there is no room for woke politics in our health systems. Such behavior stands in direct opposition to the [policies](#) of President Trump and his administration. Through [executive orders](#) and agency actions, President Trump has worked to eliminate woke politics, including DEI initiatives, from institutions like hospitals.

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It is time for the health systems highlighted in the *Consumer Warning* and others engaging in these political agendas to refocus on their core mission of providing exemplary care to patients at low costs.

We urge you to again take a stand and demand hospitals in Michigan cease their political activism and ensure that nonprofit healthcare institutions prioritize patient care over political agendas. Consumers' Research trusts you will act in the best interests of your constituents and the values they hold dear.

Sincerely,

Will Hild

William Hild
Executive Director, Consumers' Research

CC: Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Director Elizabeth Herte

Attachment:

Consumers' Research Consumer Warning: Woke Hospitals: Embracing Political Priorities Ahead of Patient Care

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