



Will Hild  
8300 Boone Boulevard Suite 500  
Vienna, VA 22182  
P: (202) 898 - 0542  
info@consumersresearch.org

March 18, 2026

The Honorable Brett Guthrie  
Chairman, House Committee on Energy and Commerce  
2125 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Morgan Griffith  
Chairman, Subcommittee on Health  
House Committee on Energy and Commerce  
2125 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Guthrie, and Griffith, and Members of the Committee:

I am writing to you today on behalf of Consumers' Research, the nation's oldest consumer advocacy organization, highlighting how nonprofit hospitals systems across the country are using federal funding streams and taxpayer-sponsored resources to fund political agendas at the expense of patient care.

Your committee has worked tirelessly to hold hospitals accountable to taxpayers and ensure organizations and health systems are good stewards of federal dollars. Hospitals impact every American consumer and that is why ensuring health systems prioritize patient care above everything else is essential. When hospitals devote time, money, and resources to political ideology, they are doing a disservice to patients, their families, and American taxpayers.

I recently [testified](#) on the House Subcommittee on Oversight on House Ways and Means Committee in an effort to educate consumers on how hospitals may be abusing their nonprofit status and using taxpayer dollars and federal revenue streams to prioritize a political agenda.

In my [testimony](#), I outlined Consumers' Research's [Bad Medicine](#) campaign exposing major nonprofit health systems like [Cleveland Clinic](#), [Vanderbilt University Medical Center](#), and [Henry Ford Health](#) for pouring resources into DEI programs, gender ideology for kids, and climate activism instead of focusing on patient care or consumer focused improvements like [price transparency](#). These actions raise real questions about whether they meet their obligations under IRS rules for tax-exempt status.

Regrettably, little has changed since then. Nonprofit hospitals keep putting politics ahead of patients. As I highlighted in my testimony, places such as Mayo Clinic simply renamed their DEI [office](#) to "Office of Belonging" but kept much of the same programming, and our continued research turned up several examples showing the pattern continues.

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Our organization recently launched a [campaign](#) targeting the University of Miami Health System (UHealth) for claiming it stopped pushing woke policies, but materials on their website still highlight DEI, transgender services, and climate activism instead of focusing on patient care. An example on its "[About Us](#)" page UHealth says it can accomplish its mission by "nurturing diversity, equity, and inclusivity."

It doesn't stop there. The University of California San Francisco Benioff Children's Hospital [hosts](#) a "Child and Adolescent Gender Center" which offers "medical and psychological care, advocacy and legal support to support transgender, nonbinary, and gender-diverse children." The center accepts new patients from three to 17 and provides medical treatments for kids who have reached puberty.

Kaiser Permanente [prioritizes](#) health equity, inclusion, and belonging, stating it strives for inclusion for all, and equitable care. The system also runs a facility for Black patients called the Center for [Black Health and Wellness](#). A provider at the center [stated](#), "The Kaiser Permanente Center for Black Health and Wellness is equity in action. Creating this clinic is another important step in our commitment to equity, inclusion, and diversity..."

This isn't isolated activism. These kinds of misguided and potentially illegal policies must be stopped. It is imperative for patients that hospitals return to their core mission of patient care and use federal funding as it was intended.

Thank you, Chairmen and Members of the Committee for the work you do in holding these hospitals accountable. Consumers' Research urges this Committee to push for hospitals to provide clear reporting on how they spend tax-deductible dollars, ensure community benefits go to real patient care, not woke initiatives, and that hospitals begin to implement consumer focused changes like President Trump's maximum [transparency rules](#). Hospitals need to put patients before politics.

I look forward to supporting your efforts and offer Consumers' Research as a resource for your continued efforts.

Sincerely,

*Will Hild*

Will Hild  
Executive Director  
Consumers' Research

**CC:**

The Honorable Jason Smith  
The Honorable David Schweikert

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