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**National Association of
Pediatric Nurse PractitionersSM**



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, March 9, 2021

Coalition Sues HHS Over Dangerous Sunset Rule That Would Automatically Scrap Thousands of Health and Food Safety Protections

For more on the suit, click [here](#).

The Plaintiffs issued the following statements upon filing:



**County of Santa
Clara**

“The U.S. healthcare sector cannot operate without stable and consistent regulations—and neither can the County’s critical safety-net healthcare system. Yet inconceivably, the Sunset Rule imposes automatic expiration dates on 18,000 HHS regulations, fundamentally destabilizing the entire healthcare sector in the midst of a global pandemic. The Sunset Rule is illegal, irrational, and massively harmful—not just to our hospitals and clinics, but to millions of patients across the nation. This Trump-era rule must be stopped now before it wreaks havoc and jeopardizes the entire healthcare system.”

— James R. Williams, Santa Clara County Counsel



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**California Tribal
Families Coalition**

“This deeply troubling rule was issued after HHS explicitly refused to consult with tribes, in violation of the law and HHS’s own policies. The ‘Sunset Rule’ directly threatens the health and safety of tens of thousands of American Indian and Alaska Native children, elders and families nationwide. It will undermine critical programs that save lives every day across Indian Country, including Tribal health care, child welfare, foster care, substance abuse, elder care, mental health, and the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) program.”

**— Teresa Sanchez, Board Member & Tribal Council Members
Morongo Band of Mission Indians**



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Practitioners**

“As experts in pediatrics and advocates for children, the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners has a duty to take action against the SUNSET Rule. The rule is a dangerous threat to U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) programs like Medicaid and the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP), which provide health coverage for more than 36 million children. To counter increasing health disparities across the country, children and adolescents need greater access to high-quality, evidence-based physical and mental health care. Now is not the time to impose more barriers or limitations on our health care system.”

**— Jessica Peck, President
DNP, APRN, CPNP-PC, CNE, CNL, FAANP, FAAN**



**American Lung
Association**

“In challenging this rule, the American Lung Association is championing healthcare protections and the lung health of youth at risk from a lifetime of tobacco addiction. Keeping the Department of Health and Human Services focused on the COVID-19 pandemic to safeguard the lung health of everyone in the U.S., including the more than 36.6 million living with a chronic lung disease such as asthma or COPD must be a priority. It is critical that the rule is removed.”

— Harold Wimmer, President and CEO



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“If left standing, the Trump Sunset rule will jeopardize important consumer protections in all aspects of health. Proposed just a day after the election and finalized on the last day of the Trump administration, this was a cynical act of regulatory sabotage that will have real consequences for public health unless it is repealed. In some cases, these rules literally keep Salmonella, E. coli, and other pathogens off our dinner plates.”

— Dr. Peter G. Lurie, President



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“Public health protections need to be made stronger, not axed. But with a pandemic still raging, the Trump administration left behind a ticking timebomb intended to eviscerate thousands of existing health rules. To truly protect us from antibiotics overuse in livestock and keep our food safe, the FDA needs to focus limited time and money on protective new rules, not justifying the existing ones. Tribal nations, health professionals, environmentalists and other advocacy organizations are joining with cities to put an end to this reckless effort and put the protection of people over politics.”

— David Wallinga, M.D., Senior Health Officer



Democracy
Forward

“The Sunset Rule is an ill-considered and sweeping effort to deregulate the entire department in one fell swoop without going through any of the legal requirements. The Sunset Rule represents a rushed attempt to ax thousands of important public health protections and tie HHS’s hands at the worst possible time. It will do enormous damage if left in place. We’re fighting to make sure that never happens.”

— Samara Spence, Senior Counsel

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