# Chemicals in water responsible for homosexuality. Just one of US Health Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jrs mad-cap ideas.



Last week, President-elect Donald Trump announced his intention to nominate Robert F. Kennedy Jr. as the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. This decision has sparked widespread concern, particularly among those connected to or advocating for the LGBTQ+ community, due to Kennedy’s controversial views on health-related matters that directly impact this demographic.

Robert F. Kennedy Jr., an environmental lawyer known for his contentious claims, has long promoted scientifically unsupported theories, especially regarding vaccines, alleging falsely that they are linked to conditions such as autism. A statement he made last year implied that endocrine-disrupting chemicals in drinking water could be responsible for homosexuality and gender dysphoria—a claim that lacks credible scientific validation.

More alarmingly, Kennedy has propagated the unfounded assertion that HIV does not cause AIDS, attributing the condition instead to the “gay lifestyle,” specifically the use of recreational drugs like amyl nitrate by men who have sex with men. His stance on halting the study of infectious diseases is equally troubling for those concerned with the future operation of the Office of Infectious Disease and HIV/AIDS Policy, an integral part of the HHS.

Kennedy's views further extend to healthcare interventions for transgender minors, which he opposes, despite these interventions being widely regarded as safe and essential by established medical organisations. Such positions have garnered him the backing of conservative groups opposed to LGBTQ rights, such as the American Principles Project.

The nomination has also triggered political reactions. Colorado Governor Jared Polis, who is openly gay, faced criticism after expressing support for Kennedy’s nomination on the social media platform X. Polis, a Democrat, applauded Kennedy’s previous opposition to vaccine mandates in Colorado and supported his promises to control drug prices and reduce pesticide-dependent agriculture. Nonetheless, Polis was quick to distance himself from Kennedy’s more controversial health claims and expressed his intent to hold him accountable for any potential actions harmful to LGBTQ interests.

Human Rights Campaign National Press Secretary, Brandon Wolf, weighed in, outlining the essential qualities expected of a leader in the Department of Health and Human Services. Wolf emphasized the importance of a Secretary who acknowledges the seriousness of the HIV epidemic and supports medically necessary care for transgender youth, reiterating the potential risks of Kennedy’s rhetoric.

The political implications of this nomination have stirred debate, illustrating a broader division within political parties. Journalist Ezra Klein of The New York Times highlighted this split, noting that RFK Jr.’s candidacy initially found a footing among Democrats due to his anti-vaccine and anti-corporate stance. However, the lasting impact of the pandemic has reshaped Democratic values, pushing away those skeptical of scientific institutions.

As the nomination process unfolds, the perspectives and actions of those involved will be closely scrutinized, particularly on matters affecting the LGBTQ community and broader public health policies. The Senate’s impending confirmation decision will have significant repercussions on the shape of healthcare and public health policy in the United States.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## References

* <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/trump-expected-to-nominate-rfk-jr-hhs-secretary/> - Corroborates President-elect Donald Trump's intention to nominate Robert F. Kennedy Jr. as the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and details Kennedy's controversial views on vaccines and health issues.
* <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/trump-expected-to-nominate-rfk-jr-hhs-secretary/> - Supports the claim that Kennedy has promoted scientifically unsupported theories, especially regarding vaccines and their alleged link to conditions such as autism.
* <https://www.bassberry.com/news/robert-f-kennedy-jr-s-nomination-as-secretary-of-health-and-human-services/> - Provides insight into the concerns about Kennedy's nomination, particularly from the perspective of life sciences companies and research organizations under the FDA and NIH.
* <https://www.wfyi.org/news/articles/former-vp-mike-pence-wants-senate-republicans-to-reject-rfk-jr--trumps-pick-for-hhs> - Details the opposition to Kennedy's nomination, including concerns about his medical conspiracies and his stance on abortion, as highlighted by former VP Mike Pence.
* <https://www.wfyi.org/news/articles/former-vp-mike-pence-wants-senate-republicans-to-reject-rfk-jr--trumps-pick-for-hhs> - Corroborates Kennedy's support for a woman’s right to choose and his stance on codifying Roe v. Wade, which contrasts with Pence’s pro-life stance.
* <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/trump-expected-to-nominate-rfk-jr-hhs-secretary/> - Supports the claim that Kennedy has vowed to combat chronic diseases and believes large drug and food companies are to blame for various health issues.
* <https://www.bassberry.com/news/robert-f-kennedy-jr-s-nomination-as-secretary-of-health-and-human-services/> - Highlights the uncertainty and concerns among life sciences companies regarding the FDA’s user fee programs and international research collaborations under a Kennedy-led HHS.
* <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/trump-expected-to-nominate-rfk-jr-hhs-secretary/> - Details Trump's promise to let Kennedy 'go wild' on health, food, and medicine issues, excluding oil and gas.
* <https://www.wfyi.org/news/articles/former-vp-mike-pence-wants-senate-republicans-to-reject-rfk-jr--trumps-pick-for-hhs> - Corroborates the political reactions and divisions within the Republican party regarding Kennedy’s nomination, particularly highlighting Pence’s opposition.
* <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/trump-expected-to-nominate-rfk-jr-hhs-secretary/> - Supports the claim that Kennedy's nomination could face challenges in the Senate, despite the Republican majority, due to his controversial health stances.