



Convention Resolution Submission

Title of Resolution

A RESOLUTION IN ROBUST SUPPORT OF THE SOUTH DAKOTA ATTORNEY GENERAL'S PURSUIT OF JUSTICE AND ACCOUNTABILITY FOR COVID-19 PANDEMIC-RESPONSE MALFEASANCE AND FRAUD, PURSUANT TO THE FEBRUARY 2025 STATE ATTORNEYS GENERAL COALITION LETTER

Summary of Resolution

This resolution calls upon the 2026 South Dakota Republican State Convention to commend Attorney General Marty Jackley for joining the February 5, 2025 coalition letter of seventeen state Attorneys General pledging to pursue accountability for COVID-19 pandemic-response malfeasance, and to robustly support him and his successor in office in exercising the state-law authority that letter asserts. It urges the Attorney General to pursue accountability against all bad actors identified in the coalition letter — not only pardon-shielded federal officials — including South Dakota-specific matters such as the thirteen-month delay in publishing the Sanford Health SURVIVE natural-immunity findings, and to coordinate with the Legislature's Government Operations and Audit Committee. It further affirms that no South Dakotan should be compelled to undergo a medical intervention without full and honest disclosure of relevant scientific information, including evidence of natural immunity, as a matter of informed consent.

Whereas Statements

WHEREAS, the Republican Party of South Dakota stands for the rule of law, government transparency, accountability for the abuse of public trust, the right of every citizen to informed medical consent, and justice for those harmed by official malfeasance and fraud; and

WHEREAS, these are the settled commitments of this Party, whose 2024 State Platform provides that "We oppose medical mandates, coercion, and intimidation of individuals" (§3.3) and that "the free flow of information empowers and energizes a republic and serves to keep government accountable" (§5.8), and whose Platform Principles affirm that "Government authority proceeds only from the consent of the People"; consistent, as well, with the 2024 National Republican Platform's pledge to "hold accountable those who have misused the power of Government" and to "declassify Government records, root out wrongdoers"; and

WHEREAS, on February 5, 2025, a coalition of seventeen state Attorneys General — including Attorney General Marty Jackley of South Dakota — wrote jointly to Speaker of the House Mike Johnson and Senate Majority Leader John Thune regarding accountability for the response to the COVID-19 pandemic, declaring that, as state Attorneys General, "we possess the authority to address violations of state law or breaches of public trust" and that they are "fully committed to investigating any malfeasance that may have occurred to the fullest extent of our authority"; and

WHEREAS, at the time the February 5, 2025 coalition letter was sent, Dr. Jay Bhattacharya, MD, PhD — whose scholarship the letter described as among those subjected to a "deliberate campaign to stifle the voices of premier health scholars" — had not yet assumed office as Director of the National Institutes of Health, but has since been confirmed to that office; and

WHEREAS, South Dakota's senior United States Senator, John Thune — who serves as Senate Majority Leader and was a principal addressee of that coalition letter — and Dr. Bhattacharya, as Director of the National Institutes of Health, are positioned to lend congressional and executive-branch cooperation to the transparency, oversight, and state-law accountability efforts the coalition letter commends; and

WHEREAS, that coalition letter expressly recognized that the preemptive presidential pardon issued to Dr. Anthony Fauci "does not extend to preclude state-level investigations or legal proceedings," and affirmed the signatories' confidence "that state laws may provide a means to hold all actors accountable for their misconduct"; and

WHEREAS, the coalition letter, relying on the findings of the U.S. House Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Pandemic, expressly identified serious areas of potential wrongdoing — including misrepresentations concerning the origins of COVID-19, the funding and oversight of gain-of-function research, and "a deliberate campaign to stifle the voices of premier health scholars," which the letter described as having "siloed crucial information from the public" and as "the very definition of propaganda that contributed to serious vaccine injuries — and in some cases, death"; and

WHEREAS, the documentary record supporting this premise has only grown stronger, as reflected in the Wall Street Journal Opinion documentary "The Lockdown Dissidents" (June 2026), featuring National Institutes of Health Director Dr. Jay Bhattacharya, MD, PhD; Dr. Scott Atlas, who served as a Special Advisor to President Trump on the White House Coronavirus Task Force; and Dr. Robert Redfield, who served as Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention from 2018 to 2021 under President Trump, which documents the silencing of scientific dissent and the abandonment of honest, evidence-based public-health policy; and

WHEREAS, these concerns find further support in the ethical arguments of Dr. Aaron Kheriaty, physician and medical ethicist, concerning informed consent, natural immunity, and the integrity of medicine during the pandemic — arguments lent further weight by the March 2026 settlement and consent decree in *Missouri v. Biden*, in which Dr. Kheriaty was a plaintiff and under which the United States Surgeon General, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency agreed to refrain from coercing social-media platforms into suppressing constitutionally protected speech; and

WHEREAS, South Dakota itself bears evidence of this same pattern: Sanford Health, the State's largest health system, conducted a seroprevalence study of its own healthcare workers known as "SURVIVE," which by January 2021 had documented that approximately fifty-five percent (55%) of participating workers possessed natural immunity to COVID-19, yet did not publish those findings for approximately thirteen months, releasing them in February 2022

without the SURVIVE name, without public announcement, and with the study's durability and efficacy endpoints removed — even as South Dakota healthcare workers and patients were being asked, and in many cases required, to be vaccinated without any regard to prior infection or existing immunity; and

WHEREAS, the timing of these events compounds the concern: Sanford Health possessed its SURVIVE natural-immunity findings by January 2021, and required its own employees to be fully vaccinated by November 1, 2021 — earlier and more stringently than any federal requirement then in effect — yet did not publish those findings until February 2022, after the public-comment window for the federal Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services health-care-worker vaccination rule had closed on January 4, 2022, after that rule's fully-vaccinated compliance deadline, and after the United States Supreme Court's January 13, 2022 decisions concerning the federal vaccination mandates; with the result that Sanford's own data remained unpublished — and therefore unavailable to inform the federal rule-making record, the courts, or state, national, and international policy, or to help defend the bodily autonomy and civil liberties of South Dakotans — at the very moments those decisions were being made; and

WHEREAS, Attorney General Marty Jackley is to be commended for standing shoulder-to-shoulder with sixteen of his fellow state Attorneys General and lending his signature to this coalition letter, thereby pledging the authority of his office to the pursuit of accountability for pandemic-response malfeasance — a commitment the Republican Party of South Dakota proudly and enthusiastically endorses; and

WHEREAS, the people of South Dakota deserve to know the truth about these matters and to see those responsible for malfeasance and fraud held accountable under South Dakota law;

Therefore Statements

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the 2026 South Dakota Republican State Convention wholeheartedly commends and applauds Attorney General Marty Jackley for joining the February 5, 2025 coalition of state Attorneys General and for his pledge to pursue accountability for COVID-19 pandemic-response malfeasance and fraud to the fullest extent of his authority, and calls upon the assembled delegates to voice their full-throated support for his leadership; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Convention robustly supports Attorney General Marty Jackley — a signatory to the February 5, 2025 coalition letter — and his successor in office in fully and faithfully exercising the state-law authority that the coalition letter asserts, to investigate and pursue justice for COVID-19 pandemic-response malfeasance and fraud; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Convention calls upon the Attorney General, present and future, to pursue accountability against all bad actors as identified in the coalition letter — not solely federal officials shielded by presidential pardon — including any persons or institutions whose conduct violated South Dakota law or breached the public trust of South Dakotans; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Convention encourages the Attorney General to examine South Dakota-specific matters falling within this scope — including the thirteen-month delay in publishing the Sanford Health SURVIVE study findings (approximately 55% natural immunity among participating healthcare workers by early 2021, with durability and efficacy endpoints removed from the eventual publication) — and to coordinate with the South Dakota Legislature's Government Operations and Audit Committee, which this Convention encourages, should it elect to pursue such an investigation, to exercise the full lawful authority vested in it — including its statutory power to subpoena witnesses, records, and testimony from any person or institution it deems necessary — and with the fellow signatory Attorneys General of the coalition letter; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Convention affirms that no South Dakotan should be compelled to undergo a medical intervention without full and honest disclosure of relevant scientific information — including evidence of natural immunity — as a matter of informed consent and individual liberty; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Convention calls upon United States Senator John Thune, South Dakota's senior United States Senator and Senate Majority Leader — a principal addressee of the February 5, 2025 coalition letter — to lend his full cooperation to the coalition's pursuit of accountability for COVID-19 pandemic-response malfeasance and fraud, including by facilitating congressional oversight, record production, and any legislative support necessary to complement the state Attorneys General's lawful investigations; and calls upon Dr. Jay Bhattacharya, MD, PhD, Director of the National Institutes of Health — copied on that coalition letter and confirmed to the office he did not yet hold when it was sent — to lend his full cooperation to an honest reckoning with the pandemic-response record, including transparency, declassification, and support for the state Attorneys General coalition's lawful pursuit of accountability under state law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Governor of South Dakota, the Attorney General of South Dakota, each candidate seeking the Republican nomination for Attorney General, the leadership of the South Dakota Senate and House of Representatives, and the members of the Government Operations and Audit Committee, United States Senator John Thune, and Dr. Jay Bhattacharya, Director of the National Institutes of Health.

Conclusion

In adopting this resolution, the South Dakota Republican Party affirms that South Dakota has a vital role to play in seeking justice — not only for the people of South Dakota, but for the people of the United States and for healthcare workers everywhere. As Dr. Kheriaty and others have argued, to require a medical intervention of those already protected by the broad and durable immunity that follows recovery from infection — for whom its additional benefit was negligible while its risks were not — without full and honest disclosure was a violation of sound medical ethics and of informed consent; a violation made graver still when material scientific findings that could have enlightened public policy, the courts, and the public were withheld rather than published in a timely manner. The Party affirms its unwavering commitment to government transparency, to the right of every citizen to full and honest informed consent, and to genuine accountability under South Dakota law — and pledges its full and enthusiastic support to Attorney General Marty Jackley and his successor in office in pursuing justice for COVID-19 pandemic-response malfeasance and fraud, to the fullest extent of their authority.

Supporting Document(s)

scag-letter-20250205.pdf

Members Who Also Support This Resolution

Confirmation

✓ I affirm I am an active, registered Republican in the State of South Dakota.

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Role / Title

Other

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Organization