



AMERICAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION
For science. For action. For health.

September 28, 2018

U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator:

On behalf of the American Public Health Association, a diverse community of public health professionals that champions the health of all people and communities, I write to express our strong opposition to the pending confirmation of Judge Brett Kavanaugh to the U.S. Supreme Court.

After [a detailed examination](#) of Judge Kavanaugh's previous opinions and his other publically stated views on key public health issues, [we wrote](#) to the members of the Senate Judiciary Committee urging them to question Judge Kavanaugh about his record on public health issues. We continue to have serious concerns about his record and views on a number of critical issues, including attempts to weaken the Affordable Care Act, roll backs of Clean Air Act protections, efforts to reduce access to the full range of reproductive health services including contraception and abortion, and undermining measures designed to prevent and reduce gun violence.

Unfortunately, neither during his responses to questions at the confirmation hearing nor in his subsequent written responses for the record did Judge Kavanaugh demonstrate that he would act in the interest of the public's health as a Supreme Court justice. Throughout the hearing, Judge Kavanaugh failed to adequately clarify his position on the aforementioned issues. Therefore, we maintain our opposition to Judge Kavanaugh's confirmation, which we believe would lead to decisions that threaten pivotal laws and regulations that safeguard and advance public health.

The lifetime appointment of the next Supreme Court justice will affect the health of all Americans for generations to come. It is vital to the nation's future that our courts uphold strong public health protections, and this priority should be reflected in the values and opinions of the nominee. Our nation deserves a Supreme Court justice who recognizes the role of a judicial system in protecting the public's health. Judge Kavanaugh's record does not reflect these values, and for these reasons, I urge you to oppose his confirmation.

Thank you for your attention to the important public health issues that are at stake as the Senate considers Judge Kavanaugh's confirmation. Do not hesitate to contact me directly if you have any questions regarding our position.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Georges C. Benjamin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Georges C. Benjamin, MD
Executive Director

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