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COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES
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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Martin Makary
Commissioner
Food and Drug Administration
10903 New Hampshire Ave.
Silver Spring, MD 20993

November 4, 2025

Dear Commissioner Makary:

I write with urgent concern regarding recent revelations about former Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (CDER) Director George Tidmarsh and their implications for FDA's enforcement actions against desiccated thyroid medications affecting 1.5 million Americans, including thousands of veterans and seniors in Arizona's 8th Congressional District.

As you know, I sent you a letter on August 15, 2025, requesting answers about FDA's actions on desiccated thyroid medications, with a response deadline of September 5, 2025.¹ Despite multiple follow-ups, FDA has provided only generic acknowledgements to my staff with general assurances that you are "working on it."²

On November 2, 2025, Dr. Tidmarsh resigned amid a Department of Health and Human Services investigation into "serious concerns about [Tidmarsh's] personal conduct."³ The same day, Aurinia Pharmaceuticals filed a lawsuit alleging that Dr. Tidmarsh used his regulatory authority to inflict financial harm on a business rival, Kevin Tang.⁴ Reports show that Dr. Tidmarsh "targeted multiple companies" affiliated with Tang, using his official position within the FDA, and pushed the agency, again with official resources, to remove desiccated thyroid drugs, including those made by American Laboratories, that manufacture the active ingredient for desiccated thyroid drugs on the market.⁵ In fact, American Laboratories, where Mr. Tang serves as board chairman, supplies ingredients for desiccated thyroid medications, which as you know are the exact products FDA targeted for removal in its August 6, 2025 enforcement action.

The timeline here is extremely alarming and raises some serious questions about the integrity of CDER under Dr. Tidmarsh's leadership. To be sure, Dr. Tidmarsh took over as head of CDER in July 2025. Just one month later, on or around August 6, 2025, the FDA issued enforcement warnings regarding desiccated thyroid drugs.⁶ Reports suggest Dr. Tidmarsh was suspended on November 1, 2025, and personally resigned the next day.

¹ Letter from Rep. Abraham J. Hamadeh to Hon. Martin Makary, Comm'r, Food & Drug Admin. (Aug. 15, 2025) (on file with author).

² Email Chain between FDA Off. of Legislation & Off. of Rep. Hamadeh (Aug. 19, 2025–Oct. 1, 2025) (on file with author).

³ CBS News, *FDA's Top Drug Regulator Quits as Agency Officials Probe Actions* (Nov. 3, 2025), <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/george-tidmarsh-fda-top-drug-regulator-quits-probe-personal-behavior/>.

⁴ Adam Feuerstein, *FDA's Top Drug Regulator Placed on Leave Amid Investigation*, STAT NEWS (Nov. 2, 2025), <https://www.statnews.com/2025/11/02/fda-george-tidmarsh-regulator-kevin-tang/>.

⁵ Emily Hilliard, *FDA's Top Drug Regulator Resigns, Agency Cites Personal Conduct*, BLOOMBERG L. (Nov. 2, 2025), <https://news.bgov.com/pharma-and-life-sciences/fdas-top-drug-regulator-resigns-agency-cites-personal-conduct>.

⁶ Food & Drug Admin., *FDA's Actions to Address Unapproved Thyroid Medications* (last updated Aug. 7, 2025), <https://www.fda.gov/drugs/enforcement-activities-fda/fdas-actions-address-unapproved-thyroid-medications>.

In light of these serious accusations and the long-standing need to rebuild public trust in matters pertaining to public health, I hereby request that FDA do the following within ten (10) business days of receipt of this letter:

1. Withdraw or indefinitely suspend any enforcement actions brought against desiccated thyroid drugs on or after the date in July 2025 of Dr. Tidmarsh's appointment, until an integrity review can be conducted;
2. A complete examination and accounting to the public and Congress, including the House Committee on Energy and Commerce and House Appropriations Committee, of each regulatory decision regarding thyroid medication, which should include examination of all communications, decision-making processes (including any deliberative materials), whether any conflicts of interest, in the Opinion of your Agency, played a role in any of these regulatory actions, and when and how concerns about Dr. Tidmarsh's unethical actions were first raised and detailed within HHS/FDA;
3. Agreement that FDA shall formally inform Congress, including the relevant Congressional Committees and my office, 180 days prior to any future enforcement of desiccated thyroid medications, with accompanying scientific evidence justifying proposed limitations, as well as any assessment of the impact on patients, and plans for transition to ensure continued access for patients;
4. Assure those 1.5 million Americans who rely on desiccated thyroid medications they will have access to these drugs with no interruptions during any regulatory review period; and
5. Answer the four questions I posed in my letter dated August 15, 2025 in a substantive manner.

I understand that your office has gone through tremendous difficulty during the Senate Democrat shutdown, and that the alleged incident seems to have taken place in spite of, rather than because of, your leadership. I commend your swift action in placing Dr. Tidmarsh on administrative leave, which demonstrates responsiveness to serious concerns, and the Trump Administration's decisive actions to lower the cost of prescription drugs for everyday Americans.

However, my constituents deserve assurances that their healthcare decisions were not, and will not be, compromised by one official's abuse of their authority to settle personal vendettas. The American people expect that FDA regulatory actions be grounded in science and patient safety, not personal scores or abuse of authority.

I look forward to working constructively with you and Secretary Kennedy to ensure regulatory integrity, while at the same time protecting patient access to essential medications like desiccated thyroid medications. Please direct your response to my Legislative Director, Cameron Erickson, at cameron.erickson@mail.house.gov.

Sincerely,



Abraham J. Hamadeh
Member of Congress
Arizona's Eighth Congressional District

Enclosures