

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

16 November 2020

Dr. Stephen Hahn  
U.S. Commissioner of Food and Drugs  
10903 New Hampshire Ave.  
Silver Spring, MD. 20993

Dear Commissioner Hahn:

With COVID-19 infections in the United States on the rise, it is more crucial than ever that the Food and Drug Administration move with all deliberate speed to ensure that a safe and effective vaccine is made available quickly to all Americans who want one.

Drugs and vaccines typically take years for approval. To your credit, Operation Warp Speed has made it possible for several vaccines to be ready for general use in less than a year. My hope is that the FDA will not be deterred from allowing the general public access to those vaccines as soon as possible.

If bureaucratic delays will take months, my hope is that you consider other avenues to speed up the process such as compassionate use, right to try, or a significant expansion of clinical trials to allow large numbers of people access to vaccines without delay.

The U.S. now has multiple promising vaccine candidates, none of which has yet to obtain approval, nor emergency use authorization, from the FDA. As we enter the winter season, with its increased risk of community transmission, I urge you to pursue all appropriate avenues to ensure that every American who wants to receive a vaccination for the novel coronavirus is able to get one.

Sincerely,



Rand Paul, M.D.  
United States Senator  
Commonwealth of Kentucky