

CAPITOL STREET

November 7, 2024

Healthcare Cabinet Names Flow

The List (As We Know it)

Relevant Companies

ALL HEALTHCARE

»» Our Take & Next Up

Given that RFK Jr. is hitting the media circuit, we understand healthcare names will be delivered in the coming days. As a reminder, the transition team includes Howard Lutnick (Cantor Fitzgerald) as well as Linda McMahon (wife of former WWE head Vince McMahon and former head of the Small Business Administration). While early names do not indicate who may be confirmed, we wanted to push out the contenders as it stands today. We highlight HHS, FDA, CMS and White House Advisors.

Please join team Capitol Street for a post-election deep-dive into healthcare priorities, must pass bills, and sector by sector outlook on **Friday November 8, 2024 at 11:00 am ET**. Registration [here](#). The Zoom link will be shared this evening.

»» Key Points

HHS

Bobby Jindal, former Louisiana Governor, currently serves as the Chair of the Center for a Healthy America at AFPI. He is anti-PBM, pro-price transparency, and aligns with Trump on limiting the ACA. He was assistant secretary of HHS under former President George W. Bush, and he was executive director of the National Bipartisan Commission on the Future of Medicare.

Eric Hargan served as a Deputy Secretary of HHS during the first Trump administration. Eric previously served as the Deputy Secretary of HHS and Acting secretary for several months during the Trump administration. As Deputy Secretary, he coordinated the comprehensive HHS telehealth response in 2020, launched the Provider Relief Fund, and coordinated the launch of the HHS interoperability rule. He is the CEO of his own consultancy, called The Hargan Group.

Seema Verma (former CMS Administrator): Verma likely seeks HHS but may not be a true contender. She is currently EVP of Oracle Health and Life Sciences. She was one of the longest-serving CMS Administrators in modern history and previously advised the state of Indiana on their first Medicaid consumer-directed health programs for the uninsured. During her tenure at CMS, she was focused on state government flexibility, VBC, price transparency, and interoperability.

Bill Lee is the current Governor of Tennessee. His focus is largely on rural healthcare and in 2021 he created the Rural Health Task Force to study the issues persisting throughout TN's rural health care system. He opposed Medicaid expansion in TN as governor.

Joseph Ladapo is the current Florida Surgeon General. He is a candidate being pushed by FL State Governor Ron DeSantis. He is a former physician whose research focused on reducing cardiovascular risk in disadvantaged populations, which aligns with the chronic disease priorities of Trump.

CMS/CMMI

Brian Blase currently leads the Paragon Health Institute, a conservative think tank, and served under Trump's first term. Blase was special assistant to Trump for economic policy and a leading voice in conservative health policy. He is particularly critical of the ACA, supportive of reducing Medicaid federal reimbursement for expansion states, and pro-MA's public-private structure.

Paul Mango is currently a public adviser at the Paragon Health Institute. He previously served as deputy chief of staff at HHS during the Trump administration and was key in leading Operation Warp Speed. He also worked on transparency and interoperability at HHS.

Brad Smith, who led CMMI under the first Trump administration, is the founder and CEO of Russell Street Ventures, a healthcare investment firm in Nashville. He was also co-founder and CEO of Aspire Health, a large home health palliative care provider that was purchased by Anthem where he also worked as an executive. Under Trump, he served as CMMI Director. He also served as Deputy Director of the White House Domestic Policy Council, Senior Advisor to the Secretary of HHS, and Deputy Administrator at CMS.

Theo Merkel is the Director of the Private Health Reform Initiative and a Senior Research Fellow for the Paragon Health Institute and a Senior Fellow at the Manhattan Institute. He served Trump as Special Assistant to the President for Economic Policy at the National Economic Council and was a former legislative Director for former Senator Pat Toomey (R-PA). He oversaw presidential initiatives including the executive order on price transparency.

FDA

Vivek Ramaswamy is a biotech entrepreneur & founder of Roivant Sciences, who was also a GOP nominee for President. He has never held public office. He has made public comments on the "corruption" at the FDA and we expect like RFK he will likely seek to reduce regulatory oversight and/or restructure the agency.

Brett Giroir is a pediatrician who was the former acting FDA commissioner. He currently serves as Executive Chair of the Global Virus Network, a coalition of medical virologists, and as CEO of Altesa Biosciences. He is also a former four-star admiral in the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps. He was the first physician to be appointed an Office Director at DARPA. His medical and public background serves as a contrast to other contenders.

Casey Means is a functional medicine doctor with Make America Healthy Again. She is an author and public figure who is focused on chronic diseases and nutrition as a form of disease prevention. She co-founded the health technology company Levels, which promotes bio-sensors for metabolic tracking.

WHITE HOUSE ADVISOR(S)

RFK Jr is unlikely to be put forth for an official Cabinet role in a Trump administration. However, he is likely to stay (at least in the short term) as a Senior White House advisor. He is the leading figure at Make America Health Again (MAHA), which is central to the Trump administration's healthcare agenda. Trump/RFK priorities include improving nutrition, addressing obesity & addiction, and overhauls at major public health institutions. See our previous analysis [here](#).

Ipsita Smolinski
Managing Director | Capitol Street
ipsita@capitol-street.com

202.250.3741 | www.capitol-street.com

900 19th St NW 6th Fl
Washington, D.C. 20006

CAPITOL STREET

Copyright 2024 Capitol Street.

This communication, including this broadcast and any attachments hereto, is intended solely for the original recipient(s) and may not be redistributed without the written consent of Capitol Street. This communication is for informational purposes only and is not intended as an offer or solicitation for the purchase or sale of any financial instruments, nor is it intended as advice to purchase or sell such instruments