

## Bill Posey

MR. POSEY: THANK YOU, MR. SPEAKER. I RISE TODAY ON MATTERS OF RESEARCH AND SCIENTIFIC INTEGRITY. TO BEGIN WITH, I AM ABSOLUTELY, RESOLUTELY PRO-VACCINE. ADVANCEMENTS IN MEDICAL IMMUNIZATION HAVE SAVED COUNTLESS LIVES AND GREATLY BENEFITED PUBLIC HEALTH. THAT BEING SAID, IT'S TROUBLING TO ME THAT IN A RECENT DESIGNATE HEARING ON CHILDHOOD VACCINATIONS IT WAS NEVER MENTIONED THAT OUR GOVERNMENT HAS PAID OUT OVER \$3 BILLION THROUGH A VACCINE INJURY COMPENSATION PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN WHO HAVE BEEN INJURED BY VACCINATIONS. REGARDLESS OF THE SUBJECT MATTER, PARENTS MAKING DECISIONS ABOUT THEIR CHILDREN'S HEALTH DESERVE TO HAVE THE BEST INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO THEM. THEY SHOULD BE ABLE TO COUNT ON FEDERAL AGENCIES TO TELL THEM THE TRUTH. FOR THESE REASONS, I BRING THE FOLLOWING MATTER TO THE HOUSE FLOOR. IN AUGUST, 2014, DR. WILLIAM THOMPSON, A SENIOR SCIENTIST AT THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION, WORKED WITH A WHISTLEBLOWER ATTORNEY TO PROVIDE MY OFFICE WITH DOCUMENTS RELATED TO A 2004 C.D.C. STUDY THAT EXAMINED THE POSSIBILITY OF A RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN MUMPS, MEASLES, RUBELLA AND AUTISM. IN A STATEMENT RELEASED IN AUGUST, 2014, DR. THOMPSON STATED, I REGRET THAT MY CO-AUTHORS AND I OMITTED STATISTICALLY SIGNIFICANT INFORMATION IN OUR 2004 ARTICLE PUBLISHED IN THE JOURNAL OF PEDIATRICS, END QUOTE. MR. SPEAKER, I RESPECTFULLY REQUEST THE FOLLOWING EXCERPTS FROM THE STATEMENT WRITTEN BY DR. THOMPSON BE ENTERED INTO THE RECORD. NOW QUOTING DR. THOMPSON. MY PRIMARY JOB DUTIES WHILE WORKING IN THE IMMUNIZATION SAFETY BRANCH FROM 2000 TO 2006 WERE TO LEAD OR CO-LEAD THREE MAJOR VACCINE SAFETY STUDIES. THE MADDSP, M.M.R., AUTISM CASES CONTROLLED STUDIES WERE BEING CARRIED OUT IN RESPONSE TO THE WAKEFIELD LANCET STUDY THAT SUGGESTED AN AUTISM-LIKE HEALTH OUTCOME. THERE WERE SEVERAL MAJOR CONCERNS BETWEEN CONSUMER ADVOCATES OUTSIDE THE C.D.C. FOLLOWING THE EXECUTION OF THE STUDY. ONE OF THE IMPORTANT GOALS THAT WAS DETERMINED UPFRONT IN THE SPRING OF 2001 BEFORE ANY OF THESE STUDIES STARTED WAS TO HAVE ALL THREE PROTOCOLS VETTED OUTSIDE THE C.D.C. PRIOR TO THE START OF THE ANALYSES SO THAT CONSUMER ADVOCATES COULD NOT CLAIM THAT WE WERE PRESENTING ANALYSES THAT SUITED OUR OWN GOALS AND BIASES. WE HYPOTHESIZED IF WE FOUND STATISTICALLY EFFECTS AT EITHER 18 OR 36-MONTH THRESHOLDS, WE CONCLUDED THAT VACCINES COULD LEAD TO AUTISM CHARACTERISTICS OR LIKED FEATURES. WE -- THE GOAL WAS TO NOT DEVIATE FROM THE ANALYSIS PLAN TO AVOID THE DEBACLE THAT OCCURRED WITH THE STUDY PUBLISHED IN THE PEDIATRICS IN 2003. AT THE SEPTEMBER 5 MEETING WE DISCUSSED IN DETAIL HOW TO CODE RACE FOR BOTH A SAMPLE AND THE BIRTH CERTIFICATE SAMPLE. AT THE BOTTOM OF TABLE 7, IT ALSO SHOWS THAT FOR THE NONBIRTH CERTIFICATE SAMPLE, THE ADJUSTED RACE EFFECT STATISTICAL SIGNIFICANCE WAS HUGE. ALL THE AUTHORS AND I MET AND DECIDED SOMEWHERE BETWEEN AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER 2002 NOT TO REPORT ANY RACE EFFECTS FOR THE PAPER. SOMETIME SOON AFTER THE MEETING WE DECIDED TO EXCLUDE REPORTING ANY RACE EFFECTS, THE CO-AUTHORS SCHEDULED A MEETING TO DESTROY DOCUMENTS RELATED TO THE STUDY. THE REMAINING FOUR CO-AUTHORS ALL MET AND BROUGHT A BIG GARBAGE CAN INTO THE MEETING ROOM AND REVUNED WENT THROUGH ALL THE HARD COPY DOCUMENTS THAT WE THOUGHT WE SHOULD DISCARD AND PUT THEM IN A HUGE GARBAGE CAN. HOWEVER, BECAUSE I ASSUMED IT WAS ILLEGAL AND WOULD VIOLATE BOTH FOIA AND D.O.J. REQUESTS, I KEPT HARD COPIES OF MY OFFICE AND I RETAINED ALL ASSOCIATED COMPUTER FILES. I BELIEVE WE INTENTIONALLY WITHHELD CONTROVERSIAL FINDINGS FROM THE FINAL DRAFT OF THE PEDIATRICS PAPER, END OF QUOTE OF THE DOCTOR. MR. SPEAKER, I BELIEVE IT'S OUR DUTY TO ENSURE THAT THE DOCUMENTS DR. THOMPSON PROVIDED ARE NOT IGNORED. THEREFORE, I WILL PROVIDE THEM TO MEMBERS OF CONGRESS AND THE HOUSE COMMITTEES UPON REQUEST. CONSIDERING THE NATURE OF THE WHISTLEBLOWER'S DOCUMENTS AS WELL AS THE INVOLVEMENT OF THE C.D.C., A HEARING AND A THOROUGH INVESTIGATION IS WARRANTED. SO I ASK, MR. SPEAKER, I BEG, I IMPLORE MY COLLEAGUES ON THE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEES TO PLEASE, PLEASE TAKE SUCH ACTION. THANK YOU, MR. SPEAKER.