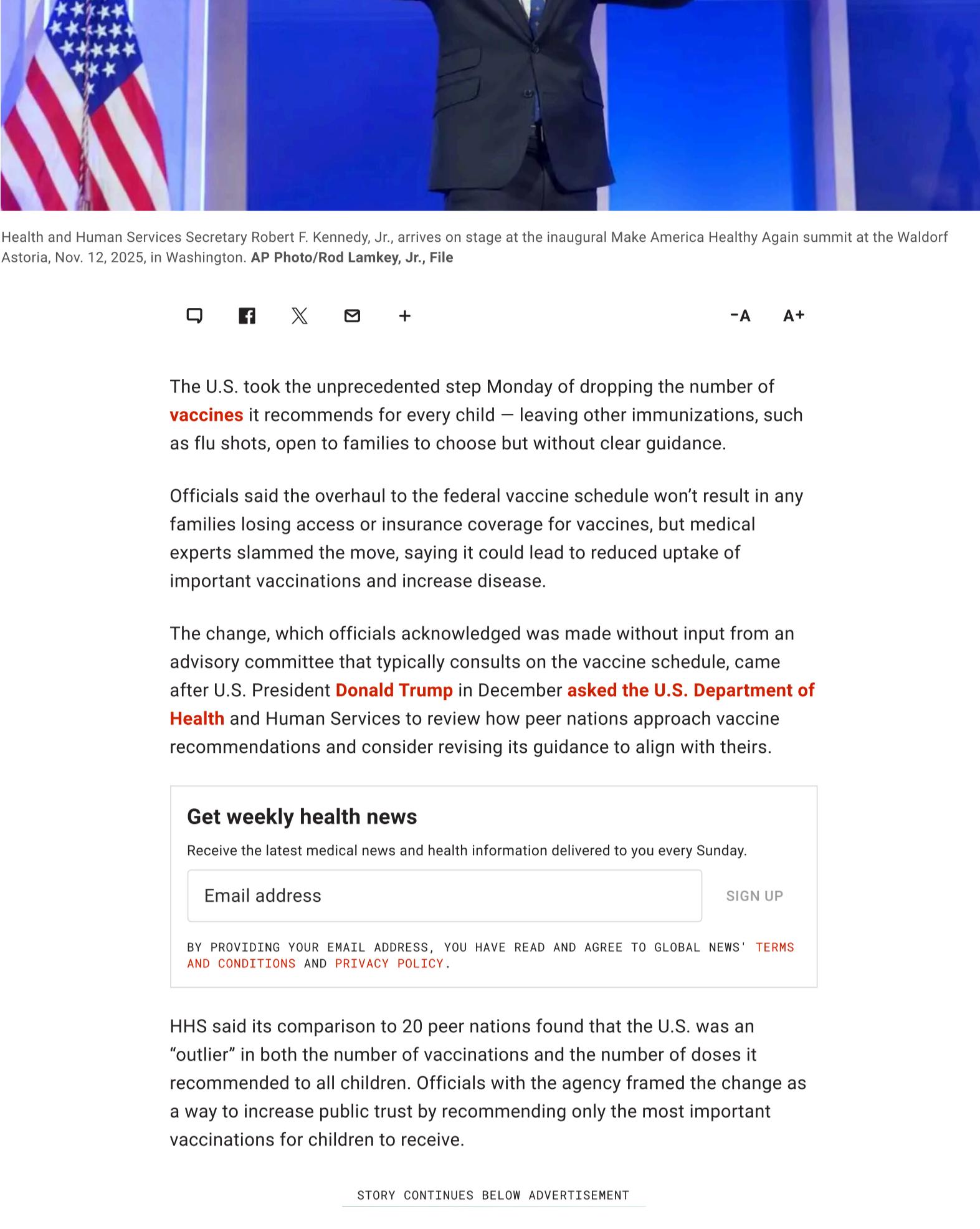


U.S. NEWS

U.S. drops the number of vaccines it recommends for every child

By Ali Swenson • The Associated Press

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Health and Human Services Secretary Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., arrives on stage at the inaugural Make America Healthy Again summit at the Waldorf Astoria, Nov. 12, 2025, in Washington. AP Photo/Rod Lamkey, Jr., File

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The U.S. took the unprecedented step Monday of dropping the number of **vaccines** it recommends for every child — leaving other immunizations, such as flu shots, open to families to choose but without clear guidance.

Officials said the overhaul to the federal vaccine schedule won't result in any families losing access or insurance coverage for vaccines, but medical experts slammed the move, saying it could lead to reduced uptake of important vaccinations and increase disease.

The change, which officials acknowledged was made without input from an advisory committee that typically consults on the vaccine schedule, came after U.S. President **Donald Trump** in December **asked the U.S. Department of Health** and Human Services to review how peer nations approach vaccine recommendations and consider revising its guidance to align with theirs.

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HHS said its comparison to 20 peer nations found that the U.S. was an "outlier" in both the number of vaccinations and the number of doses it recommended to all children. Officials with the agency framed the change as a way to increase public trust by recommending only the most important vaccinations for children to receive.

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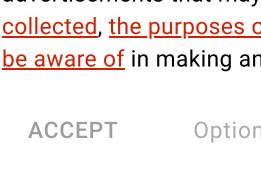
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