

PRESS STATEMENT

FROM

THE HONORABLE LOUIS W. SULLIVAN, M.D.

Former Secretary, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (1989-1993)

President Emeritus, Morehouse School of Medicine

Let Us Trust Our Medical and Scientific Professionals

Confronting the pandemic resulting from the corona virus, President Trump has stated that “we are at war” with this infectious agent.

As a physician, former president of a medical school and former U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services, I want to strongly commend the valuable scientific and professional leadership given to the nation by our men and women in the U.S. Public Health Service during this crisis.

The expertise of Dr. Anthony Fauci of NIH, Dr. Deborah Birx at the White House and Dr. Robert Redfield at CDC is being utilized by our elected officials to help our nation navigate through the existential threat we are facing from this virus.

This episode shows our citizens and our elected officials – the president, members of congress, governors, state legislators, and others – the importance of investing in scientific research and health professions training so that our nation is more capable of a creative and nimble response to the threat from a new enemy, the corona virus 19.

I urge everyone, beginning with the president, the congress, all our elected leaders, our business leaders and non-profit leaders, -- indeed, all of our citizens -- to listen carefully to Dr. Fauci and his colleagues, and to follow their reasoned and data-informed advice.

This is a test of our society. We must succeed in this effort. We will, if we believe in – and if we trust – our health and scientific professionals.