

May 15, 2025
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Dear Mr President:

I am concerned about HIV.

In your 2019 State of the Union address you backed the 2014 UN plan to end the AIDS epidemic by 2030 fifty years after it emerged. As the Biden presidency drew to a close this ambitious goal still seemed challenging but within reach. Approaches to a cure are looking more promising, PrEP treatments are widely available and President Bush's PEPFAR program was providing treatment to millions to keep them healthy and noninfectious. Models predicted disease rates continuing a rapid decline. Rather than maintain what has been called history's most effective health program you hired Mr Musk to dismantle USAID and with it PEPFAR- halting the testing and treatment work of a quarter million health-care workers and shutting down vaccine trials. Models published in Nature last month now show not eradication in five years but millions more infections and deaths.

Please assure me that you will fund AIDS eradication.

My pride in the US derives in part from our medical prowess.

Sincerely,
Eric Babson