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**Florida House Democrats Respond to State Surgeon General's  
Detrimental Guidance**

**TALLAHASSEE, Fla.** – During a roundtable convened by the Governor to deride public health decisions and mitigation measures aimed to protect and save Floridians from COVID-19, State Surgeon General Joseph Ladapo announced the State intends to issue a recommendation against COVID-19 vaccines for “healthy children.” Florida House Democratic Caucus members issued statements in response.

“Florida Surgeon General Joseph Ladapo has continued to undermine the severity of COVID-19 despite over 70,000 people in our state dying as a result of the virus. With over 17 million doses of the COVID-19 vaccine administered, we have all started to feel a sense of normalcy again. Ladapo remains an outlier in the scientific community as our nation works toward a safer and healthier future for everyone, including our children. It is unfortunate that our State’s Department of Health is being led by someone who fails to put the health of Floridians before the Governor’s political games,” said **Representative Fentrice Driskell (D-Tampa)**.

“This is just another sign that this man is not fit for the job. There is no validity to any portion of his statements. Vaccines save lives. It is a sad day in our state, when our Surgeon General, the person tasked with looking out for the health of our people, goes against the American Academy of Pediatrics and the CDC just to play politics. Whether we are talking about COVID 19 or a myriad of other preventable diseases, vaccines save lives. There can no longer be any doubt that the Governor and the Surgeon General of the State are not working to keep our children safe, but simply playing politics,” said **Representative Kelly Skidmore (D-Boca Raton)**.

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