

### FILED

June 26, 2025 OKLAHOMA SECRETARY OF STATE

### **EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE ORDER 2025-13**

WHEREAS, President Donald J. Trump and Secretary of Health and Human Services Robert F. Kennedy Jr. have launched the Make America Healthy Again ("MAHA") Initiative to renew the Nation's commitment to reducing chronic disease through the elimination of environmental toxins, restraint of pharmaceutical overreach, and improvement of the quality of the American food supply;

WHEREAS, the MAHA Initiative emphasizes the urgent need for stronger attention to the harmful chemicals in our food, water, and everyday consumer products, as well as championing holistic health, the power of nutrition, and clean living;

WHEREAS, the MAHA Initiative also encompasses the growing public concern, evolving scientific research, and fundamental principle of informed consent that call into question the continued appropriateness of mandatory fluoridation of the public drinking water system, a practice historically supported by the State of Oklahoma as a means of promoting dental health;

WHEREAS, the MAHA Initiative recognizes the emerging research about the potential health effects of commonly used artificial food coloring, including Red Dye 40, which has links to behavioral issues in children, allergic reactions, and long-term health risks;

WHEREAS, the State of Oklahoma has a compelling interest in protecting public health and a responsibility to ensure that public health policy reflects both current scientific evidence and the will of Oklahomans;

WHEREAS, the health and well-being of Oklahomans, including reducing the rates of chronic disease, obesity, and preventable illnesses, is foundational to our State's strength, resilience, and prosperity;

WHEREAS, Oklahoma voters sent a clear message at the ballot box that they support President Trump and the principles behind the MAHA movement;

WHEREAS, the State of Oklahoma needs a unified strategy to restore medical freedom, uphold individual choice, and protect informed consent, while ensuring our food, water, and products are safe from toxic chemicals and harmful substances;

WHEREAS, my Administration is committed to implementing the core tenants of the MAHA movement and Initiative on a state-level through a Make Oklahoma Healthy Again ("MOHA") Initiative; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the initiatives and directives laid out in this Executive Order, the Oklahoma Department of Human Services ("DHS"), under my direction, has formally requested a federal waiver to exclude the purchase of carbonated soft drinks and candy through the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program ("SNAP"), which reflects the State's commitment to Make Oklahoma Healthy Again by reducing preventable diet-related health issues like obesity, diabetes, and heart disease.

NOW THEREFORE, I, J. Kevin Stitt, Governor of the State of Oklahoma, pursuant to the power and authority vested in me by Sections 1 and 2 of Article VI of the Oklahoma Constitution, and to the fullest extent permitted by law, hereby order as follows:

#### Comprehensive Review of Water Fluoridation of the Public Water Supply.

- 1. The Commissioner of Health of the Oklahoma State Department of Health ("OSDH") and the Executive Director of the Department of Environmental Quality ("DEQ") are hereby directed to conduct a comprehensive review of all current policies, regulations, procedures, and practices related to the fluoridation of the public water supplies in the State of Oklahoma.
- 2. OSDH and DEQ shall submit a written report to the Office of the Governor, the President pro Tempore of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, no later than ninety (90) days from the date of this Executive Order that shall document all current fluoridation practices across municipal water systems and rural water districts in the state, as well as concrete recommendations and a timeline for transitioning away from a position or practice that mandates or promotes the fluoridation of the public water supply.
- 3. OSDH and DEQ, through their agency heads, shall thereafter, and no later than sixty (60) days from the date the report is issued, revisit and revise any formal position on the practice of fluoridation of the public water supplies in the State of Oklahoma.
- 4. OSDH and DEQ shall immediately cease any state-level promotion or endorsement of fluoridation of the public water supply pending the revised formal position.
- 5. All other executive state agencies and agency heads shall provide any and all cooperation as may be requested by the Commissioner of Health and Executive Director of DEQ for the implementation of this Executive Order.

## Comprehensive Review Regarding the Use of Artificial Food Coloring, Including Red Dye 40.

6. The Commissioner of Health, the Commissioner of Agriculture, the Executive Director of the Oklahoma Department of Corrections ("DOC"), and the Executive Director of DHS are hereby directed to conduct a comprehensive review of the presence and use of artificial food coloring, including but not limited to Red Dye 40, in any food programs administered or regulated by said agency, including school or summer meal programs, state correctional facilities, Local Food Procurement Assistant programs,

- and public food benefit programs including SNAP benefits, Women, Infants, Children ("WIC") benefits, and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families ("TANF") benefits.
- 7. The Commissioners of Health and Agriculture and the Executive Directors of DOC and DHS shall submit a written report to the Office of the Governor, the President pro Tempore of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives no later than sixty (60) days from the date of this Executive Order that shall include the following:
  - a. An inventory of food programs, and food products if reasonably available, containing artificial food coloring, including Red Dye 40, currently distributed or permitted within state-funded programs; and
  - b. Specific recommendations for reducing or eliminating food products containing artificial food coloring, including Red Dye 40, from state-funded food programs.
- 8. OSDH, the State Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry ("ODAFF"), DOC, and DHS, through their agency heads, shall thereafter, and no later than sixty (60) days from the date the report is issued, develop a formal position on the use of artificial food coloring, including Red Dye 40, in food served or funded by the State and provide public education surrounding the possible adverse health effects of artificial food coloring agents like Red Dye 40 and safer alternatives.
- 9. All other executive state agencies and agency heads shall provide any and all cooperation as may be requested by the Commissioners of Health and Agriculture and Executive Directors of DOC and DHS for the implementation of this Executive Order.
- 10. The State Superintendent of Public Instruction, State Board of Education, and State Department of Education (collectively "SDE") shall collaborate with OSDH, ODAFF, DOC, and DHS to implement the provisions of this Executive Order as to any food programs implemented by SDE, including the Child and Adult Care Food Program ("CACFP").

# Establishing the Make Oklahoma Healthy Again Initiative and Advisory Council to Promote Clean Living, Physical Activity, and Preventative Health.

- 11. OSDH, through the Commissioner of Health, is hereby directed as the lead agency to implement the "Make Oklahoma Healthy Again" (MOHA) initiative, in collaboration with any other relevant agencies and stakeholders.
- 12. There is hereby created the MOHA Advisory Council, whose purpose shall be to advise and make recommendations on policies, directives, programs, and proposed regulations or legislation related to the MOHA Initiative. The Commissioner of Health shall regularly consult with the MOHA Advisory Council in the implementation of the MOHA Initiative. The MOHA Advisory Council shall consist of the following, each of whom will serve without compensation:

- a. Two (2) members to be appointed by the Governor,
- b. Commissioner of Health or his designee,
- c. Commissioner of Agriculture or her designee,
- d. The Executive Director of DHS or his designee,
- e. The Executive Director of DEQ or his designee,
- f. The Secretary of Education or her designee,
- g. The Chief Advisor of Health and Mental Health or her designee, and
- h. The Executive Director of DOC or his designee.
- 13. The Governor shall designate from amongst the members a Chair of the MOHA Advisory Council. OSDH shall provide staff and administrative support to the MOHA Advisory Council.
- 14. In addition to exploring the reduction or elimination of fluoridation of the public water supply and artificial food dyes in food sponsored or purchased by the State, the MOHA Initiative shall encourage the following:
  - a. Expansion and public awareness of community-based exercise and wellness programs, and voluntary participation of state agencies and employees in exercise and wellness programs;
  - b. Public education campaigns focused on clean living, healthy eating, and reduced exposure to harmful toxins or substances;
  - c. Integration of physical activity and nutrition education in state-funded public health programs; and
  - d. Partnerships with the Office of Faith-Based Initiatives, religious and civic organizations, and local, state, or federal partners to host wellness events and health screenings; and
  - e. Any other similar initiatives, programs, or public education campaigns that advance the principles and purposes of this Order, as determined by the Chair and approved by the Governor.
- 15. OSDH is hereby authorized to create new programs or repurpose existing programs to further the objectives of the MOHA Initiative.
- 16. OSDH is directed to accomplish the MOHA Initiative without reliance on new taxpayer funding and instead by utilizing existing appropriations or pursing federal grants, use of the Oklahoma Tobacco Settlement Endowment Trust, philanthropic support, and/or partnerships with private-sector and non-profit organizations.

#### **General Provisions**

- 17. If any provision of this Executive Order, or the application of any provision to any person or circumstance, is held to be invalid, the remainder of this Executive Order and the applicability of its other provisions to any other persons or circumstances shall not be affected thereby.
- 18. This Executive Order shall be distributed to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the President pro Tempore of the Senate, all cabinet secretaries and chief advisors, and all agency heads.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Oklahoma to be affixed at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, this 26th day of June, 2025.

#### BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA

J. Kevin Stitt

ATTEST:

Josh Cockroft, Secretary of State