



The Senate of the State of New Hampshire

107 North Main Street, Concord, N.H. 03301-4951

September 17, 2021

Senator Jeanne Shaheen
506 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Maggie Hassan
324 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Representative Ann McLane Kuster
320 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Chris Pappas
323 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senator Shaheen, Senator Hassan, Representative Kuster, and Representative Pappas,

We are writing to ask you to stand up for New Hampshire, and oppose the increasingly draconian federal mandates and restrictions coming from the Biden Administration which will harm both our economy and health care systems.

The latest executive overreach is to use the Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA) to force anyone working for a business with more than 100 workers to take the vaccine against COVID-19. Vaccine mandates are ineffective, and possibly counterproductive.

New Hampshire has a high vaccination rate due to Governor Sununu's leadership. The vaccines developed through Operation Warp Speed are a medical miracle. They greatly reduce both the chance of infection and the severity of illness in patients who develop breakthrough infections. But this is a decision that must be left to individuals, not at the command of a bureaucracy in Washington D.C.

In an attempt to change the subject from the crisis on our southern border and the tragic withdrawal from Afghanistan, President Biden reversed his position and rushed to announce this sweeping mandate before working out the details. We don't know even how this mandate would work. Who would be subject to the mandate, and who would be exempt? How is OSHA going to enforce the rule, which it was never designed to do? Are we passing the costs of enforcing these mandates and testing on to our small businesses, which are struggling to overcome the economic stress of an 18-month pandemic?

The rushed White House mandate ignores immunity acquired by those who have already recovered from the disease. Nor does it hold illegal immigrants crossing our borders to the same

standards as American citizens who just want to go to work. In fact, your own Congressional offices aren't even covered by the mandate.

President Biden's vaccine mandate also does not take into account that health care workers already in extremely short supply may resign rather than submit to a vaccine mandate. Will New Hampshire hospitals stop maternity coverage as recently happened in New York because of staff shortages caused by vaccine mandates? Losing more employees during a labor shortage will harm New Hampshire's small businesses that are already struggling.

Granite Staters have reacted to this chaotic announcement with both anger and confusion especially since high ranking administration officials have called the OSHA mandate a "workaround". As with his unconstitutional eviction moratorium, the Biden Administration has already admitted it lacks the power to impose such a mandate, but did it anyway. Congress must step in.

As New Hampshire's representatives in Washington, we urge you to stand up for the Granite State and oppose this massive mandate on businesses and employees across New Hampshire. Use the authority of Congress to demand oversight and accountability from an administration that is out of control and abusing its power.

You have a choice to go along with the Washington way of doing things, or defending the New Hampshire way. Please make the right decision for the Granite State.

Sincerely,

Senate President Chuck Morse
District 22

Sen. Erin Hennessey
District 1

Sen. Bob Giuda
District 2

Sen. Jeb Bradley
District 3

Sen. James Gray
District 6

Sen. Harold French
District 7

Sen. Ruth Ward
District 8

Sen. Denise Ricciardi
District 9

Sen. Gary Daniels
District 11

Sen. Kevin Avar
District 12

Sen. Sharon Carson
District 14

Sen. John Reagan
District 17

Sen. Regina Birdsell
District 19

Sen. Bill Gannon
District 23