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 Fax (+1+) 54950200

January 15, 2021

Re: SDMAC Phase 1b: Recommendations for Public Comment

Dear SDMAC- Vaccine Subcommittee Members,

United Migrant Opportunity Services/UMOS Inc. (UMOS) is a non-profit advocacy organization that provides programs and services which improve the employment, educational, health and housing opportunities of under-served populations, including Migrant and Seasonal Agricultural Workers (MSAW). UMOS currently operates 40+ programs with more than \$25 million grant and performance-based contracts from federal, state, and local funding sources throughout 7 states.

UMOS urges the SDMAC Vaccine Subcommittee to consider MSAW as Essential and prioritize them in Group 1b for Covid-19 vaccinations.

Wisconsin's MSAW are essential workers who ensure that the nation's food supply chain is not interrupted. This demographic is the core of the food supply chain and protecting them is vital to the nation's food security. Across the country, there are 2.4 million farmworkers, of which 1.3 million reside in states who are among the top 15 in the number of known Covid-19 cases.

Agriculture is Wisconsin's top economic driver, and this industry relies on a healthy and stable MSAW workforce. There are approximately 72,425 agricultural workers in Wisconsin. Ont of over 500,000 Covid-19 cases in our state, a growing number are in the agricultural sector. As an organization with significant experience directly serving farmworker communities in Wisconsin, UMOS is concerned that the effect of Covid-19 on the working, housing and transportation conditions of farmworkers have serious implications for agricultural communities and our food snpply. The MSAW population is extremely vulnerable to Covid-19 transmission due to both congregate living and working in close quarters. Their essential work pnts their lives and, by extension, the communities they work in, at risk.

Furthermore, MSAW are primarily Hispanic or Latinx, a population disproportionately impacted by Covid-19. The most recent WI data from DHS indicates that Hispanic or Latinx patients have 1.7 times greater case rates compared to White Wisconsin residents. Latinx patients also have the highest case rate at a little over 13,000 per 100,000 people.

UMOS respectfully disagrees with the comments in Appendix B regarding the low probability of addressing logistical challenges to vaccinate agricultural workers in employer-sponsored housing. Failure to prioritize MSAW in Group 1b runs connter to the Vaccine Distribution Sub-Committee's stated goal of addressing health inequities and disparities, as well as running connter to what the ACIP and CDC have recommended. UMOS urges the Sub-Committee to include Migrant and Seasonal Agricultural Workers as the essential workers that they are, and strongly recommend including them as a priority in Group 1b, as other states have done. Any other direction demonstrates a grave injustice to this vulnerable population that is counted upon to ensure the stability of our state's and nation's food supply.

Sincerely,

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Lupe Martinez President/CEO United Migrant Opportunity Services/UMOS Inc.

> arbanisas - Plaetita - Minnosota - Missourt - Tosas - Rivensio www.umuss.org

From:	Rebecca Carpenter
То:	DHS SDMAC; mayor@cityofmadison.com
Cc:	Rhonda Adams
Subject:	The River Food Pantry requests inclusion of vaccines for frontline, essential hunger-relief workers in Phase 1B of the Wisconsin State Disaster Medical Advisory vaccine subcommittee recommendation
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 4:00:25 PM
Attachments:	Outlook-1493328106.png

Thank you for your efforts to ensure efficient and equitable distribution of vaccines.

<u>The River Food Pantry</u> is South Central Wisconsin's **busiest food pantry**, serving over 1,000 households every single week. **Hunger-relief frontline workers and volunteers, like ours, must be included in the Phase 1B recommendation for the COVID-19 vaccine to ensure the record number of food-insecure children, seniors, veterans and families receive the food they need to survive this pandemic.** 

In 2020, 15,381 people—one third of which are children—relied on The River for free weekly groceries, daily meals and other essentials, including masks, cleaning supplies, personal hygiene items and paper products, to stay healthy and safe. In response to COVID-19, The River continues to serve more first-time visitors than ever before. **Since the pandemic began, over 2,500 new families have registered for our services**—a 60% increase compared to before the pandemic.

With a spike in demand, in 2020 The River served a record-setting 3.7 million pounds of food to 6,063 households, saving the average family \$210 per visit to spend on other expenses during this economic crisis.

To safely meet the growing nutritional needs of Dane County throughout the pandemic, The River increased our hours of distribution and adapted all of our programs to include free curbside groceries, mobile lunches for children, to-go meals for families, deliveries to the homebound, and (coming soon) an online marketplace.

With 16 full-time and 4 part-time staff to oversee longer distribution hours, The River heavily depends on volunteers to run our growing list of programs. **However, the health and safety restrictions of the pandemic have slashed our volunteer base. In 2020, we received 50% less volunteers and service hours than the prior year.** *Imagine how many more mouths we could feed if we had more safe and healthy bodies to do it!* 

The sooner hunger-relief frontline workers and volunteers receive the vaccine, the more we can do to solve rising hunger in Dane County.

Thank you for your consideration, Becca

Becca Carpenter

Communications Manager | The River Food Pantry (414) 745-8060 | <u>riverfoodpantry.org</u>



JMONARI@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Joe MONARI
DHS SDMAC
Requesting inclusion of vaccines for frontline, essential hunger-relief workers in phase 1B of the Wisconsin State Disaster Medical Advisory vaccine subcommittee recommendation
Friday, January 15, 2021 4:00:10 PM

Dear Wisconsin State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee Vaccine Subcommittee,

Thank you for your efforts to ensure efficient and equitable distribution of vaccines. It is incredibly important and necessary that the Phase 1B recommendation for the COVID-19 vaccine include hunger-relief frontline workers and volunteers. These workers and volunteers are essential to continue the unprecedented distribution of food to those Wisconsinites experiencing hunger during the pandemic and economic crisis.

Prioritization of hunger-relief frontline workers is imperative for the following reasons:

• Hunger-relief workers and volunteers are the critical force behind the wellbeing of the record number of Wisconsinites facing food insecurity. One in eight Wisconsinites, including one in five Wisconsin kids, don't know where their next meal is coming from. The hunger-relief network is mobilized like never before to meet this need. Our network is serving about 60% more individuals than last year. And Wisconsin's Feeding America member food banks and partners distributed about 90 million unprecedent pounds of food to those experiencing food insecurity from March to September of 2020, that is 25 million more pounds than was distributed in all of fiscal year 2019.

• The hunger-relief frontline workers and volunteers serve individuals in vulnerable health situations. People experiencing food insecurity have a disproportionately high rate of chronic health conditions that put people at higher risk of severe COVID-19 complications. This population frequently has less access to consistent quality health care and insurance. Also, 23% of households served has at least one senior and we know that age is a good indicator for risk of severe COVID-19 complications or death. People of color disproportionately experience food insecurity and are also known to be at greater risk of severe COVID-19 complications.

• It is our duty to ensure the safety of those being served. Individuals being served and in contact with hungerrelief frontline workers have few other options but to seek assistance from food pantries and meal sites do not have a way to mitigate their COVID-19 risk. They cannot avoid the interaction with staff and volunteers and rely on the organization to help meet basic needs and provide them with the meals they need to live.

• The hunger-relief network relies heavily on volunteers to fulfill the mission, many (37%) of these volunteers are seniors. An estimated 52 percent of food pantries and meal sites report having no paid staff. Among the 46 percent of agencies with paid staff, the median number of paid full-time equivalent staff members reported is four. As a result, if staff or volunteers were to test positive for COVID-19 and potentially require other staff or volunteers to quarantine, food distribution operations would be greatly impacted.

Collaboration between our hunger-relief organizations, public health, and those administering the vaccine will be essential to planning for equitable and efficient distribution, addressing concerns, educating about and adhering to appropriate protocols.

The COVID-19 vaccine is a critical step toward ensuring the safety and health of staff, volunteers, and those accessing food resources. It also ensures that food banks have the capacity to continue distributions at this unprecedented rate to feed Wisconsinites experiencing hunger. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely, Mr. Joe MONARI

From:	Tina Martinez-Clausen
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 3:53:32 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing you leaders today, and asking you to please reconsider the grocery store industry to be a priority in The Covid-19 vaccinations. They are essential workers. We need them.

Sincerely , Tina Martinez-Clausen

Dear Committee Member,

Please consider including grocery workers in the prioritized populations for COVID-19 vaccinations.

Sincerely , Mary Rauenbuehler

From:	Bill Strange
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Vaccine subcommittee - phase 1B
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 3:49:10 PM

To the vaccine subcommittee:

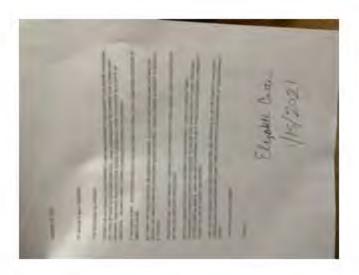
Please reconsider your plan and include the grocery industry for phase 1B. I just don't know where we'd be right now if they hadn't all kept doing their jobs.

Thank you for considering this. I'm sure there are many factors to consider. I just know how primary food acquisition is. To live through the pandemic we must eat. Let's protect those who are feeding us.

Thank you, Peg Strange

Sent from my iPad

From:	Beth Carter
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	How are we not essential??
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 3:46:53 PM



Sent from my iPhone

From:	Robert Crossman
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 3:42:35 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I write today as an employee of Sendik's Food Markets, a retail grocer serving the citizens of Wisconsin. I am asking you to consider including our industry in Wisconsin's tier 1B of the COVID-19 vaccination plan.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, my coworkers and I have been on the front lines serving our communities. We never shut down. We are face to face with the public 14 hours a day. There is no opportunity in our industry to work remotely.

We are the stockers, checkers, baggers, cart wipers, clerks, delivery drivers and order fillers that get food to the people of our state. We are the definition of a front line worker. We are proud of what we do and have continued to show up everyday to do our jobs despite risk of exposure to the virus from the tens of thousands of guests who come to our stores every week. Our jobs are essential to our state's food supply and we consistently have been called "heroes" for the work we have done and continue to do.

In their guidelines for COVID-19 vaccine distribution, the CDC specifically calls out "grocery workers" as essential and part of Phase 1b distribution. We are asking your committee to include grocery workers as part of Wisconsin's Phase 1b distribution plan.

Sincerely , Robert Crossman

From:	ramsey Lee
To:	Schauer, Stephanie L - DHS; mitch; DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Public Comment for State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 3:41:01 PM

To Whom It May Concern,

Thank you for allowing me to submit this public comment. My name is Ramsey Lee, I am a 40-year-old from Hudson Wisconsin and I have Cerebral Palsy. First of all, I would like to thank you and the State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee for its hard work and dedication to this process. This has been a major undertaking for all parties involved and I just want to tell you, I support the idea of including people with disabilities in the 1B category and process. I also would encourage the State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee to make sure that people in their own homes and communities on the Wisconsin IRIS program can get the vaccine as many people with disabilities may be at increased risk for the virus. I also support putting grocery store workers in this category because they have been essential workers throughout the pandemic and they may be at higher risk for exposure because of the volume of people they come in contact with on a daily basis. Finally, if there is anything I can do personally to help with the process, please let me know. I would love to do whatever I can to help and I'm writing this public comment as a private citizen and not as part of any organization. It has always been my goal to make life better for Wisconsin citizens with all abilities. If you have any questions, I can be reached at 715-410-0974.

Sincerely,

Ramsey Lee

From:	Terry Daniels
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 3:38:24 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations as our employees are on the front line every day!

Sincerely , Terry Daniels

From:	Kathy Eckenrod
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 3:36:11 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. What would we have done without them. I worry so much about their well-being.

Sincerely , Kathy Eckenrod

From:	Rachel Bartnik
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 3:34:05 PM

Dear Committee Member,

Please reconsider your prioritization of COVID-19 vaccinations for grocery workers. They are constantly exposed to the public and need protection!

Sincerely , Rachel Bartnik

#### JANUARY 14, 2021

#### TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I AM AN ESSENTIAL WORKER.

I WORK FOR WOODMAN'S FOOD MARKETS AND HAVE WORKED THROUGHOUT THIS ENTIRE PANDEMIC, IN A TIME OF NEED IN OUR COMMUNITIES. I HAVE WORKED HARD TO SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY MEMBERS, ENSURING THEY STILL HAVE ACCESS TO ESSENTIAL ITEMS TO SURVIVE IN A STATE OF UNKNOWN. I WORKED HARD TO SERVE OUR GUESTS, WITHOUT HESITATION.

IT HAS BEEN SCARY. WHEN EVERYONE ELSE HAS SHELTERED AT HOME, I STILL CAME AND CONTINUE TO COME TO WORK.

BUT NOW I AM TOLD I AM NOT AN ESSENTIAL WORKER. ALL OF MY HARD WORK AND SACRIFICE OF MYSELF, MY FAMILY AND MY LOVED ONES MEANS NOTHING. I AM NO LONGER A PRIORITY TO RECEIVE A VACCINE.

THIS IS NOT FAIR. WHY SHOULD I CONTINUE TO PUT MYSELF, MY FAMILY AND MY LOVED ONES HEALTH ON THE LINE WITHOUT PROTECTION?

AM I NO LONGER THE HERO YOU REFERRED TO ME AS BEFORE? I COME IN CONTACT WITH THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE EVERY DAY AND WEEK TO ENSURE THEY HAVE ACCESS TO THEIR FOOD AND OTHER ESSENTIAL NEEDS. HOW AM I NOT CONSIDERED TO BE A "PUBLIC FACING ESSENTIAL WORKER"? PLEASE TELL ME AS I DON'T UNDERSTAND.

LASK YOU RECONSIDER YOUR RECOMMNEDATION AND PRIORITIZE ALL OF THE "HEROES" WHO HAVE WORKED HARD IN UNKNOWN AND SCARY TIMES TO SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITIES IN THEIR ESSENTIAL NEEDS.

I AM AN ESSENTIAL WORKER.

SIGNED,

Amber hudering

From:	Paula Rauenbuehler
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 3:30:50 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations.

Having had the virus and three weeks in, I am still suffering from symptoms. It has had a significant impact on my ability to work, earn an income and fully participate in life. Professionally, keeping food workers safe helps grocery stores maintain their important service to their customers. It keeps them safe and it keeps their communities safe. Please reconsider the order in which these essential workers who have been on the front lines all this time. So many customers have expressed their appreciation for my work in the grocery store-please do the same by including us in the earlier phases of the vaccine distribution.

Thank you

Sincerely , Paula Rauenbuehler

From:	Carrie Murwin
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 3:25:59 PM

Dear Committee Member,

grocery stores have been open during the entire pandemic. Grocery store employees are essential to keeping stores open. They need to be recategorized as essential.

Sincerely , Carrie Murwin

From:	Shivali Zala
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 3:20:03 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations

Sincerely , Shivali Zala

From:	ramsey Lee
To:	DHS SDMAC; Madden, Zach A - GOV
Subject:	Public Comment for State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 3:19:18 PM

To Whom It May Concern,

Thank you for allowing me to submit this public comment. My name is Ramsey Lee, I am a 40-year-old from Hudson Wisconsin and I have Cerebral Palsy. First of all, I would like to thank you and the State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee for its hard work and dedication to this process. This has been a major undertaking for all parties involved and I just want to tell you, I support the idea of including people with disabilities in the 1B category and process. I also would encourage the State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee to make sure that people in their own homes and communities on the Wisconsin IRIS program can get the vaccine as many people with disabilities may be at increased risk for the virus. I also support putting grocery store workers in this category because they have been essential workers throughout the pandemic and they may be at higher risk for exposure because of the volume of people they come in contact with on a daily basis. Finally, if there is anything I can do personally to help with the process, please let me know. I would love to do whatever I can to help and I'm writing this public comment as a private citizen and not as part of any organization. It has always been my goal to make life better for Wisconsin citizens with all abilities. If you have any questions, I can be reached at 715-410-0974.

Sincerely,

Ramsey Lee

Kyla Olague
DHS SDMAC
vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Friday, January 15, 2021 3:11:00 PM

Dear Committee Member,

Dear Subcommittee Members:

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations.

Grocery workers have worked tirelessly throughout the pandemic and are as critical to our food supply as farmers. While our company takes every safety precaution possible for our team, the reality is that this team has been exposed to the members of the public every day and put at increased risk of infection for nearly a year now. Even with capacity limits in place, our team of 150 employees is exposed to 2,500-3,500 customers each & every day at each of our (3) locations.

A recent study found that grocery store employees may be at higher risk for COVID-19 and may be more likely to have no symptoms. (https://www.cnn.com/2020/10/29/health/grocery-workers-increased-covid-19-risk-wellness/index.html )

Grocery workers do not have the opportunity to do their jobs from home. Their role in our community requires them to be at their workplace day in & day out, often working with customers who do not follow basic CDC safety precautions like wearing a face covering (or not wearing it properly). It has been stressful for many of them to come to work every day, but they have endured and continued to provide a way for families in our community to have food on their tables.

Please allow this group who serve such a vital need in our community access to the COVID19 vaccine as early as possible and do no move them to group 1C.

Sincerely , Kyla Olague

Dear Committee Member,

I write today as an employee of Sendik's Food Markets, a retail grocer serving the citizens of Wisconsin. I am asking you to consider including our industry in Wisconsin's tier 1B of the COVID-19 vaccination plan.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, my coworkers and I have been on the front lines serving our communities. We never shut down. We are face to face with the public 14 hours a day. There is no opportunity in our industry to work remotely.

We are the stockers, checkers, baggers, cart wipers, clerks, delivery drivers and order fillers that get food to the people of our state. We are the definition of a front line worker. We are proud of what we do and have continued to show up everyday to do our jobs despite risk of exposure to the virus from the tens of thousands of guests who come to our stores every week. Our jobs are essential to our state's food supply and we consistently have been called "heroes" for the work we have done and continue to do.

In their guidelines for COVID-19 vaccine distribution, the CDC specifically calls out "grocery workers" as essential and part of Phase 1b distribution. We are asking your committee to include grocery workers as part of Wisconsin's Phase 1b distribution plan.

Sincerely , Kimberly Kapke

From:	Ann Alesci
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 2:58:47 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I write today as an employee of Sendik's Food Markets, a retail grocer serving the citizens of Wisconsin. I am asking you to consider including our industry in Wisconsin's tier 1B of the COVID-19 vaccination plan.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, my coworkers and I have been on the front lines serving our communities. We never shut down. We are face to face with the public 14 hours a day. There is no opportunity in our industry to work remotely.

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In their guidelines for COVID-19 vaccine distribution, the CDC specifically calls out "grocery workers" as essential and part of Phase 1b distribution. We are asking your committee to include grocery workers as part of Wisconsin's Phase 1b distribution plan.

Sincerely , Ann Alesci

Dear Committee Member,

I write today as an employee of Sendik's Food Markets, a retail grocer serving the citizens of Wisconsin. I am asking you to consider including our industry in Wisconsin's tier 1B of the COVID-19 vaccination plan.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, my coworkers and I have been on the front lines serving our communities. We never shut down. We are face to face with the public 14 hours a day. There is no opportunity in our industry to work remotely.

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In their guidelines for COVID-19 vaccine distribution, the CDC specifically calls out "grocery workers" as essential and part of Phase 1b distribution. We are asking your committee to include grocery workers as part of Wisconsin's Phase 1b distribution plan.

Sincerely , Jacqueline Haertel

From:	boudnik@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Isabella Boudnik
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Requesting inclusion of vaccines for frontline, essential hunger-relief workers in phase 1B of the Wisconsin State Disaster Medical Advisory vaccine subcommittee recommendation
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 2:44:55 PM

Dear Wisconsin State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee Vaccine Subcommittee,

Thank you for your efforts to ensure efficient and equitable distribution of vaccines. It is incredibly important and necessary that the Phase 1B recommendation for the COVID-19 vaccine include hunger-relief frontline workers and volunteers. These workers and volunteers are essential to continue the unprecedented distribution of food to those Wisconsinites experiencing hunger during the pandemic and economic crisis.

My name is Izzy Boudnik, and I am a student at UW-Madison. I am a staff member at The Open Seat, our campus food pantry. Since the pandemic has started, we have seen an enormous increase in the number of students who have requested food from us. Many students are facing loss of on-campus jobs, which makes it difficult to pay for rent and food.

Our work is more important than ever. During March of last year, we served over 100 students each week and continue to serve 50+ students and families. In order for us to continue safely proving our essential services, food pantry employees like ourselves need access to the COVID vaccine. Please consider adding food pantry workers to Group 1B.

Collaboration between our hunger-relief organizations, public health, and those administering the vaccine will be essential to planning for equitable and efficient distribution, addressing concerns, educating about and adhering to appropriate protocols.

The COVID-19 vaccine is a critical step toward ensuring the safety and health of staff, volunteers, and those accessing food resources. It also ensures that food banks have the capacity to continue distributions at this unprecedented rate to feed Wisconsinites experiencing hunger. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely, Miss Isabella Boudnik

From:	Clayton Nowatzki			
To:	DHS SDMAC			
Subject:	vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B			
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 2:44:53 PM			

Dear Committee Member,

It is important to me and my coworkers that the next phase of vaccinations be available to essential workers of the grocery industry. We have been working tirelessly throughout this pandemic and it would be a peace of mind to know the risk of getting the virus could be put to rest. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely , Clayton Nowatzki

kelly slotke
DHS SDMAC
vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Friday, January 15, 2021 2:44:53 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I write today as an employee of Sendik's Food Markets, a retail grocer serving the citizens of Wisconsin. I am asking you to consider including our industry in Wisconsin's tier 1B of the COVID-19 vaccination plan.

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In their guidelines for COVID-19 vaccine distribution, the CDC specifically calls out "grocery workers" as essential and part of Phase 1b distribution. We are asking your committee to include grocery workers as part of Wisconsin's Phase 1b distribution plan.

Sincerely, kelly slotke

# Sent from my iPhone

#### DHSSDMAC@dhs.wisconsin.gov

TO WHEM II MAY CONCERN.

I AM AN ESSENTIAL WORK P.

LV/DRX FOR WOODMAN'S FOOD MARKETS AND HAVE WORKED THROUGHOUT THIS ENTIRE PANDEMIC. IN A TIME OF NEED IN OUR DOMMUNITIES. I HAVE WORKED HARD TO SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY MEMBERS ENSURING THEY ETIL HAVE ACCESS TO ESSENTIAL ITEMS TO SURVIVE IN A STATE OF UNKNOWN. I WORKED HARD TO SERVE OUR GUESTS, WITHOUT HES/TATION.

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VAMANA SSTRATAN WORKER

# the sender. Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize

Subject: Date:

Friday, January 15, 2021 2:44:52 PM

From: ö

Shane Essen DHS\_SDMAC

Essential worker

From: To: Kelsey LaVelle DHS\_SDMAC

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Subject: Date: Essential workers Friday, January 15, 2021 2:44:52 PM

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Sent from my iPhone

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I AM AN ESSENTIAL WORKER.

I WORK FOR WOODMAN'S FOOD MARKETS AND HAVE WORKED THROUGHOUT THIS ENTIRE PANDEMIC, IN A TIME OF NEED IN OUR COMMUNITIES. I HAVE WORKED HARD TO SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY MEMBERS, ENSURING THEY STILL HAVE ACCESS TO ESSENTIAL ITEMS TO SURVIVE IN A STATE OF UNKNOWN. I WORKED HARD TO SERVE OUR GUESTS, WITHOUT HESITATION.

IT HAS BEEN SCARY. WHEN EVERYONE ELSE HAS SHELTERED AT HOME, I STILL CAME AND CONTINUE TO COME TO WORK.

BUT NOW I AM TOLD I AM NOT AN ESSENTIAL WORKER. ALL OF MY HARD WORK AND SACRIFICE OF MYSELF, MY FAMILY AND MY LOVED ONES MEANS NOTHING. I AM NO LONGER A PRIORITY TO RECEIVE A VACCINE.

THIS IS NOT FAIR. WHY SHOULD I CONTINUE TO PUT MYSELF, MY FAMILY AND MY LOVED ONES HEALTH ON THE LINE WITHOUT PROTECTION?

AM I NO LONGER THE HERO YOU REFERRED TO ME AS BEFORE? I COME IN CONTACT WITH THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE EVERY DAY AND WEEK TO ENSURE THEY HAVE ACCESS TO THEIR FOOD AND OTHER ESSENTIAL NEEDS. HOW AM I NOT CONSIDERED TO BE A "PUBLIC FACING ESSENTIAL WORKER"? PLEASE TELL ME AS I DON'T UNDERSTAND.

LASK YOU RECONSIDER YOUR RECOMMINEDATION AND PRIORITIZE ALL OF THE "HEROES" WHO HAVE WORKED HARD IN UNKNOWN AND SCARY TIMES TO SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITIES IN THEIR ESSENTIAL NEEDS.

to madura

I AM AN ESSENTIAL WORKER.

SIGNED,



To: Subject: Date:

<u>Stephanie Madura</u> <u>DHS SDMAC</u> Essential Worker Friday, January 15, 2021 2:41:18 PM

From:

Dear Committee Member,

Dear Subcommittee Members:

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations.

Grocery workers have worked tirelessly throughout the pandemic and are as critical to our food supply as farmers. While our company takes every safety precaution possible for our team, the reality is that this team has been exposed to the members of the public every day and put at increased risk of infection for nearly a year now. Even with capacity limits in place, our team of 150 employees is exposed to 2,500-3,500 customers each & every day at each of our (3) locations.

A recent study found that grocery store employees may be at higher risk for COVID-19 and may be more likely to have no symptoms. (https://www.cnn.com/2020/10/29/health/grocery-workers-increased-covid-19-risk-wellness/index.html )

Grocery workers do not have the opportunity to do their jobs from home. Their role in our community requires them to be at their workplace day in & day out, often working with customers who do not follow basic CDC safety precautions like wearing a face covering (or not wearing it properly). It has been stressful for many of them to come to work every day, but they have endured and continued to provide a way for families in our community to have food on their tables.

Please allow this group who serve such a vital need in our community access to the COVID19 vaccine as early as possible and do no move them to group 1C.

Sincerely , Emily Maiers

From:	Trudelle Malicki
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 2:27:18 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. What the heck is wrong with you people? It is a priority to get food and you put mink farmers and prisoners before grocery workers. Something is wrong with your thinking.

Sincerely , Trudelle Malicki

From:	Justin Biller
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	vaccine subcommittee phase 1B
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 2:24:32 PM

Dear SDMAC Vaccine Subcommittee Members:

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations.

When the Wisconsin's Safer at Home order went into effect back in March 2020, the Governor emphasized the imminent threat of COVID 19, the pandemic to all our Wisconsin citizens...

"Wisconsin, this is serious, the crisis is urgent. It's not safe to go out, it's not safe to have others over it's just not safe. And it might not be safe for a while yet"

Honestly, we were all scared, but at that point all of us, Essential Businesses and Critical Infrastructure Workers, had a job to do, and that was to take care of our community and ourselves as we went to war against this unseen enemy.

I am proud of the bravery our over 500 team members here at Metcalfe's Market had, along with all the other Essential and Critical Infrastructure Workers across our state, that put their own person lives on the line along with those that they love, as we pressed on to service this community during a raging pandemic.

Grocery workers have worked tirelessly throughout the pandemic and are as critical to our food supply as farmers. While our company takes every safety precaution possible for our team, the reality is that this team has been exposed to members of the public every day and put at increased risk of infection for nearly a year now. Even with capacity limits in place, our team of 150 – 200 employees are exposed to 2,500-3,500 customers each & every day at each of our (3) locations. Very few other Essential businesses have this type of daily public interaction during the current Community Spread stage of COVID 19 that we find ourselves in here in Wisconsin.

Grocery workers do not have the opportunity to do their jobs from home. When their role in our community requires them to be at their workplace day in & day out. It has been stressful for many of them to come to work every day, but they have endured and continued to provide a way for families in our community to have food on their tables.

Please allow this group who serve such a vital need in our community access to the COVID19 vaccine as early as possible and do not move them to group 1C. Sincerely,

Justin Biller Seafood Manager Metcalfe's Market Wauwatosa Justin.b@shopmetcalfes.com 414-259-8560 EXT:117

From:	Trudelle Malicki
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 2:21:28 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. Really mink farmers and prisoners come before grocery workers. What is wrong with you people!

Sincerely , Trudelle Malicki

Dear Committee Member,

I write today as an employee of Sendik's Food Markets, a retail grocer serving the citizens of Wisconsin. I am asking you to consider including our industry in Wisconsin's tier 1B of the COVID-19 vaccination plan.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, my coworkers and I have been on the front lines serving our communities. We never shut down. We are face to face with the public 14 hours a day. There is no opportunity in our industry to work remotely.

We are the stockers, checkers, baggers, cart wipers, clerks, delivery drivers and order fillers that get food to the people of our state. We are the definition of a front line worker. We are proud of what we do and have continued to show up everyday to do our jobs despite risk of exposure to the virus from the tens of thousands of guests who come to our stores every week. Our jobs are essential to our state's food supply and we consistently have been called "heroes" for the work we have done and continue to do.

In their guidelines for COVID-19 vaccine distribution, the CDC specifically calls out "grocery workers" as essential and part of Phase 1b distribution. We are asking your committee to include grocery workers as part of Wisconsin's Phase 1b distribution plan.

Sincerely, CAROLYN REPP

Tatum Satterlee			
DHS SDMAC			
vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B			
Friday, January 15, 2021 2:18:29 PM			

Dear Committee Member,

Dear Subcommittee Members:

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations.

Grocery workers have worked tirelessly throughout the pandemic and are as critical to our food supply as farmers. While our company takes every safety precaution possible for our team, the reality is that this team has been exposed to the members of the public every day and put at increased risk of infection for nearly a year now. Even with capacity limits in place, our team of 150 employees is exposed to 2,500-3,500 customers each & every day at each of our (3) locations.

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Grocery workers do not have the opportunity to do their jobs from home. Their role in our community requires them to be at their workplace day in & day out, often working with customers who do not follow basic CDC safety precautions like wearing a face covering (or not wearing it properly). It has been stressful for many of them to come to work every day, but they have endured and continued to provide a way for families in our community to have food on their tables.

Please allow this group who serve such a vital need in our community access to the COVID19 vaccine as early as possible and do no move them to group 1C.

Sincerely, Tatum Satterlee

#### JANUARY 14, 2021

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I AM AN ESSENTIAL WORKER.

SIGNED,

Juliger 1-15-21

From:	Aaron Warren
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	vaccine subcommittee" and "phase 1B
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 1:58:54 PM

HERE IS MY LETTER ...

Dear SDMAC Vaccine Subcommittee Members:

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations.

When the Wisconsin's Safer at Home order went into effect back in March 2020, the Governor emphasized the imminent threat of COVID 19, the pandemic to all our Wisconsin citizens...

"Wisconsin, this is serious, the crisis is urgent. It's not safe to go out, it's not safe to have others over it's just not safe. And it might not be safe for a while yet"

Honestly, we were all scared, but at that point all of us, Essential Businesses and Critical Infrastructure Workers, had a job to do, and that was to take care of our community and ourselves as we went to war against this unseen enemy.

I am proud of the bravery our over 500 team members here at Metcalfe's Market had, along with all the other Essential and Critical Infrastructure Workers across our state, that put their own person lives on the line along with those that they love, as we pressed on to service this community during a raging pandemic.

Grocery workers have worked tirelessly throughout the pandemic and are as critical to our food supply as farmers. While our company takes every safety precaution possible for our team, the reality is that this team has been exposed to members of the public every day and put at increased risk of infection for nearly a year now. Even with capacity limits in place, our team of 150 – 200 employees are exposed to 2,500-3,500 customers each & every day at each of our (3) locations. Very few other Essential businesses have this type of daily public interaction during the current Community Spread stage of COVID 19 that we find ourselves in here in Wisconsin.

Grocery workers do not have the opportunity to do their jobs from home. When their role in our community requires them to be at their workplace day in & day out. It has been stressful for many of them to come to work every day, but they have endured and continued to provide a way for families in our community to have food on their tables.

Please allow this group who serve such a vital need in our community access to the COVID19 vaccine as early as possible and do not move them to group 1C.

Sincerely,

Aaron Warren

Meat Manager

From:	ShyAir Taylor
То:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Essential Worker
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 1:57:49 PM

# DHSSDMAC@dhs.wisconsin.gov

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SIGNED,

JANUARY 14, 2021

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1196

JANUARY 14, 2021

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SIGNED.

Haley Elsperry

From:	Chistina Paus
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 1:53:30 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. Thank you

Sincerely , Chistina Paus

From:	Diane Schulte
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	"vaccine subcommittee" - "phase 1B"
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 1:53:03 PM

Dear SDMAC Vaccine Subcommittee Members:

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations.

When the Wisconsin's Safer at Home order went into effect back in March 2020, the Governor emphasized the imminent threat of COVID 19, the pandemic to all our Wisconsin citizens...

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Please allow this group who serve such a vital need in our community access to the COVID19 vaccine as early as possible and do not move them to group 1C.

Sincerely,

608-238-3838

Diane Schulte CF, WMFM Floral Manager Metcalfe's Market

From:	Olive Jennings
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 1:52:03 PM

Dear Committee Member,

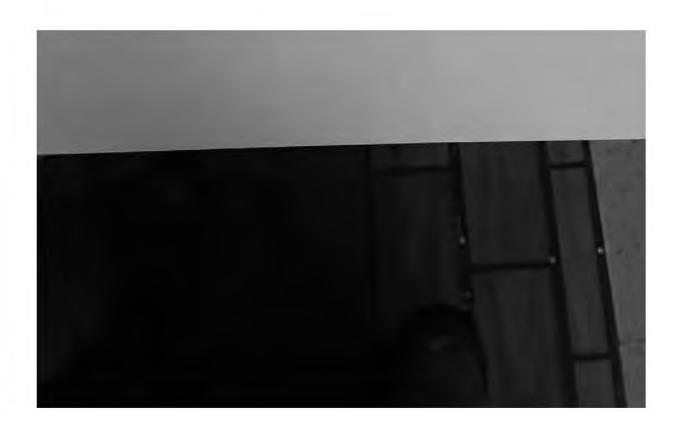
I'm writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations.

Sincerely , Olive Jennings



From:	<u>Jo Ann</u>
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	I AM an Essential Worker!!
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 1:51:30 PM

JANUARY 14, 2021 TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN I AM AN ESSENTIAL WORKER. I WORK FOR WOODMAN'S FOOD MARKETS AND HAVE WORKED THROUGHOUT THIS ENTIRE PANDEMIC, IN A TIME OF NEED IN OUR COMMUNITIES. I HAVE WORKED HARD TO SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY MEMBERS, ENSURING THEY STILL HAVE ACCESS TO ESSENTIAL ITEMS TO SURVIVE IN A STATE OF UNKNOWN. I WORKED HARD TO SERVE OUR GUESTS, WITHOUT HESITATION. IT HAS BEEN SCARY. WHEN EVERYONE ELSE HAS SHELTERED AT HOME, I STILL CAME AND CONTINUE TO COME TO WORK BUT NOW I AM TOLD I AM NOT AN ESSENTIAL WORKER. ALL OF MY HARD WORK AND SACRIFICE OF MYSELF, MY FAMILY AND MY LOVED ONES MEANS NOTHING. I AM NO LONGER A PRIORITY TO RECEIVE A VACCINE. THIS IS NOT FAIR. WHY SHOULD I CONTINUE TO PUT MYSELF, MY FAMILY AND MY LOVED ONES HEALTH ON THE LINE WITHOUT PROTECTION? AM I NO LONGER THE HERO YOU REFERRED TO ME AS BEFORE? I COME IN CONTACT WITH THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE EVERY DAY AND WEEK TO ENSURE THEY HAVE ACCESS TO THEIR FOOD AND OTHER ESSENTIAL NEEDS. HOW AM I NOT CONSIDERED TO BE A "PUBLIC FACING ESSENTIAL WORKER"? PLEASE TELL ME AS I DON'T UNDERSTAND. I ASK YOU RECONSIDER YOUR RECOMMNEDATION AND PRIORITIZE ALL OF THE "HEROES" WHO HAVE WORKED HARD IN UNKNOWN AND SCARY TIMES TO SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITIES IN THEIR ESSENTIAL NEEDS. I AM AN ESSENTIAL WORKER. SIGNED, Joban Price



Sent from my U.S.Cellular© Smartphone Get <u>Outlook for Android</u>

Dear Committee Member,

Dear Subcommittee Members:

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations.

Grocery workers have worked tirelessly throughout the pandemic and are as critical to our food supply as farmers. While our company takes every safety precaution possible for our team, the reality is that this team has been exposed to the members of the public every day and put at increased risk of infection for nearly a year now. Even with capacity limits in place, our team of 150 employees is exposed to 2,500-3,500 customers each & every day at each of our (3) locations.

A recent study found that grocery store employees may be at higher risk for COVID-19 and may be more likely to have no symptoms. (https://www.cnn.com/2020/10/29/health/grocery-workers-increased-covid-19-risk-wellness/index.html )

Grocery workers do not have the opportunity to do their jobs from home. Their role in our community requires them to be at their workplace day in & day out, often working with customers who do not follow basic CDC safety precautions like wearing a face covering (or not wearing it properly). It has been stressful for many of them to come to work every day, but they have endured and continued to provide a way for families in our community to have food on their tables.

Please allow this group who serve such a vital need in our community access to the COVID19 vaccine as early as possible and do no move them to group 1C.

Sincerely , Daniel Klugman

Dear Committee Member,

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Grocery workers have worked tirelessly throughout the pandemic and are as critical to our food supply as farmers. While our company takes every safety precaution possible for our team, the reality is that this team has been exposed to the members of the public every day and put at increased risk of infection for nearly a year now. Even with capacity limits in place, our team of 150 employees is exposed to 2,500-3,500 customers each & every day at each of our (3) locations.

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Sincerely, Robert Ostrander

PM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. I think that it is important for grocery industry to get the shot do to working with a lot of customers that come into the stores that could of been near people with the covid-19

Sincerely , Cathy Rittenhouse

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations.

Dear Subcommittee Members:

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Sincerely , Kevin Gherke

1B: 70 and older with underlying illnesses not living in long term care facilities. Include stroke?

Family units. for example: both spouses even if one isn't over 70 or have underlying health issue.

Also those with more than average exposure to the general public: teachers and related staff in the schools, check out people in the grocery stores.

Thank you, I wish you the best in your decisions.

From:	Virgina Olson
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 1:46:28 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. As a retired senior citizen I can quarantine and really limit my exposures. The grocery workers who have worked throughout the epidemic to keep the food supply available, and in many instances have provided me with contact free drive up pickup of my grocery order have a much higher exposure risk and should be have priority to receive the vaccine.

Sincerely , Virgina Olson

Lyndsie Rice
DHS SDMAC
vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Friday, January 15, 2021 1:39:46 PM

Dear Committee Member,

Dear Subcommittee Members:

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations.

Grocery workers have worked tirelessly throughout the pandemic and are as critical to our food supply as farmers. While our company takes every safety precaution possible for our team, the reality is that this team has been exposed to the members of the public every day and put at increased risk of infection for nearly a year now. Even with capacity limits in place, our team of 150 employees is exposed to 2,500-3,500 customers each & every day at each of our (3) locations.

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Please allow this group who serve such a vital need in our community access to the COVID19 vaccine as early as possible and do no move them to group 1C.

Sincerely , Lyndsie Rice

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I WORK FOR WOODMAN'S FOOD MARKETS AND HAVE WORKED THROUGHOUT THIS ENTIRE PANDEMIC, IN A TIME OF NEED IN DUR COMMUNITIES. I HAVE WORKED HARD TO SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY MEMBERS, ENSURING THEY STILL HAVE ACCESS TO ESSENTIAL ITEMS TO SURVIVE IN A STATE OF UNKNOWN. I WORKED HARD TO SERVE OUR GUESTS, WITHOUT HESITATION. 11

IT HAS BEEN SCARY. WHEN EVERYONE ELSE HAS SHELTERED AT HOME, I STILL CAME AND CONTINUE TO COME TO WORK.

BUT NOW I AM TOLD I AM NOT AN ESSENTIAL WORKER. ALL OF MY HARD WORK AND SACRIFICE OF MYSELF, MY FAMILY AND MY LOVED ONES MEANS NOTHING. I AM NO LONGER A PRIORITY TO RECEIVE A VACCINE.

THIS IS NOT FAIR. WHY SHOULD I CONTINUE TO PUT MYSELF, MY FAMILY AND MY LOVED ONES HEALTH ON THE LINE WITHOUT PROTECTION?

AM I NO LONGER THE HERO YOU REFERRED TO ME AS BEFORE? I COME IN CONTACT WITH THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE EVERY DAY AND WEEK TO ENSURE THEY HAVE ACCESS TO THEIR FOOD AND OTHER ESSENTIAL NEEDS. HOW AM I NOT CONSIDERED TO BE A "PUBLIC FACING ESSENTIAL WORKER"? PLEASE TELL ME AS I DON'T UNDERSTAND.

1 ASK YOU RECONSIDER YOUR RECOMMINEDATION AND PRIORITIZE ALL OF THE "HERDES" WHO HAVE WORKED HARD IN UNKNOWN AND SCARY TIMES TO SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITIES IN THEIR ESSENTIAL NEEDS.

I AM AN ESSENTIAL WORKER.

SIGNED,

1-15.2021

1210

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations.

I have been working in a grocery store for all of covid. I am afraid everyday for my immunocompromised coworkers and for myself.

Please we are essential workers. We have been forced into this role.

The least you can do is get us the vaccine before the general public

Sincerely, Carrie Stenerson

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations.

Grocery workers have worked tirelessly throughout the pandemic and certainly are critical to he food supply as farmers. The team is exposed to 2500 to 3500 customers each and every date at any of the 3 locations.

These workders do not have the ability to do there jobs from home. They need to be at there workplace each and everyday. Often workig with customers who don't follow the CDC guidelines. It has been a very stressful situation for many months and we have to go home to families as well.

Pleas allow this group who serve such an important to the community access to the COVID 19 vaccine as early as possible and keep them in the 1B group as they are essential workers.

Sincerely , Anita Allison

From:	Steven Bach
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 1:30:48 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. Grocery stores are an essential part for our community and if we are vaccinated we would not only be protecting ourselves, but further protecting the public. Not to mention many workers have no choice but to work even if they are high risk.

Sincerely, Steven Bach



1213

Good afternoon,

I would encourage the next rounds be made available to school staff, essential workers such as grocery workers, those people keeping communication open such as phone workers, etc. Thank you.

From:	Christina Paus
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 1:25:45 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. Thank you

Sincerely , Christina Paus

From:	Alexis Paus
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 1:18:44 PM
	J. J .

Dear Committee Member,

Dear Subcommittee Members:

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations.

Grocery workers have worked tirelessly throughout the pandemic and are as critical to our food supply as farmers. While our company takes every safety precaution possible for our team, the reality is that this team has been exposed to the members of the public every day and put at increased risk of infection for nearly a year now. Even with capacity limits in place, our team of 150 employees is exposed to 2,500-3,500 customers each & every day at each of our (3) locations.

A recent study found that grocery store employees may be at higher risk for COVID-19 and may be more likely to have no symptoms. (https://www.cnn.com/2020/10/29/health/grocery-workers-increased-covid-19-risk-wellness/index.html )

Grocery workers do not have the opportunity to do their jobs from home. Their role in our community requires them to be at their workplace day in & day out, often working with customers who do not follow basic CDC safety precautions like wearing a face covering (or not wearing it properly). It has been stressful for many of them to come to work every day, but they have endured and continued to provide a way for families in our community to have food on their tables.

Please allow this group who serve such a vital need in our community access to the COVID19 vaccine as early as possible and do no move them to group 1C.

Sincerely , Alexis Paus

From:	Thyra Dahlstrom
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 1:15:39 PM
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 1:15:39 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations.

Dear Subcommittee Members:

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations.

Grocery workers have worked tirelessly throughout the pandemic and are as critical to our food supply as farmers. While our company takes every safety precaution possible for our team, the reality is that this team has been exposed to the members of the public every day and put at increased risk of infection for nearly a year now. Even with capacity limits in place, our team of 150 employees is exposed to 2,500-3,500 customers each & every day at each of our (3) locations.

A recent study found that grocery store employees may be at higher risk for COVID-19 and may be more likely to have no symptoms. (https://www.cnn.com/2020/10/29/health/grocery-workers-increased-covid-19-risk-wellness/index.html )

Grocery workers do not have the opportunity to do their jobs from home. Their role in our community requires them to be at their workplace day in & day out, often working with customers who do not follow basic CDC safety precautions like wearing a face covering (or not wearing it properly). It has been stressful for many of them to come to work every day, but they have endured and continued to provide a way for families in our community to have food on their tables.

Please allow this group who serve such a vital need in our community access to the COVID19 vaccine as early as possible and do no move them to group 1C.

Sincerely , Thyra Dahlstrom

From:	Eric Peterson
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 1:13:07 PM
-	

Dear Committee Member,

Dear Subcommittee Members,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations.

Grocery workers have worked tirelessly throughout the pandemic and are as critical to our food supply as farmers. While our company takes every safety precaution possible for our team, the reality is that this team has been exposed to the members of the public every day and put at increased risk of infection for nearly a year now. Even with capacity limits in place, our team of 150 employees is exposed to 2,500-3,500 customers each & every day at each of our (3) locations.

A recent study found that grocery store employees may be at higher risk for COVID-19 and may be more likely to have no symptoms. (https://www.cnn.com/2020/10/29/health/grocery-workers-increased-covid-19-risk-wellness/index.html )

Grocery workers do not have the opportunity to do their jobs from home. Their role in our community requires them to be at their workplace day in & day out, often working with customers who do not follow basic CDC safety precautions like wearing a face covering (or not wearing it properly). It has been stressful for many of them to come to work every day, but they have endured and continued to provide a way for families in our community to have food on their tables.

Please allow this group who serve such a vital need in our community access to the COVID19 vaccine as early as possible and do no move them to group 1C.

Sincerely , Eric Peterson

From:	Francessca Magyar
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 1:05:43 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations.

Through this pandemic, I have worked every single week putting myself at risk for being exposed to COVID-19. Upon so, our store has been extremly busy. We've all been overworked as wearing masks for five plus hours. We deserve the vaccine as the backbone of the essential businesses. Whether we go on lockdown again or not, we will still continue to work. If we are not provided a vaccine, I will not continue serving my community as a grocery store worker. I am done risking my health when the government won't repay us.

Sincerely , Francessca Magyar

From:	William Lorman
То:	DHS SDMAC; GOV Info; Rep.Hesselbein - LEGIS
Subject:	Vaccine priority.
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 1:05:39 PM

To whom this may concern;

My business is in Middleton, WI and my work is dedicated to grocer, food and infrastructure. Please understand the way you can help manage a significant attack vector for the COVID-19 disease.

I ask that you do all possible to get grocery workers protected by vaccinations ASAP. You must consider the disease attack vector aspect. Grocery stores are a constant 2500 - 3500 or more of all public exposed to 150 - 200 employees.

Grocery workers do not have the opportunity to do their jobs from home. When their role in our community requires them to be at their workplace day in & day out. It has been stressful for many of them to come to work every day, but they have endured and continued to provide a way for families in our community to have food on their tables.

Thank you.

Wm. Lorman

From:	Ron Kundinger
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	COVID vaccination phase 1b input
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 12:54:21 PM

To whom it may concern,

I am providing input on the phase 1b vaccination program in which I read that prisoners are being prioritized over citizens that contribute to the economy such as grocery store workers, people 65 and older, etc. I disagree with this high of a priority given to prisoners. One of the intentions of the vaccination program is to get the economy back up and running. This involves getting people active in the economy such as service workers and people who are spending money within the economy through shopping and patronizing restaurants and other small businesses.

Therefore my recommendation is to place the priority of prisoners in the vaccination program below people who contribute to the economy.

Thank you. Ron Kundinger

Ron Kundinger

Sent from Gmail Mobile

From:	Alex Zamarripa
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 12:49:13 PM

Dear Committee Member,

Hello Governor Evers, Secretary Palm and members of the SMDAC committee, My name is Alex Zamarripa and I work as the grocery store director here in Stanley WI. Next to our brave first responders and medical professionals, we here at store level are on the very front line and incurring the greatest risks in battling against this pandemic. PLEASE -----I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations.

Sincerely , Alex Zamarripa Sent from my iPhone



From:	Erin Bykowski
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 12:33:18 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. After our hospitals/clinics and emergency services, access to our food supply needs to be prioritized. We are asking grocery workers to ensure our survival, not unlike our medical staff. They need to be protected. Additionally, if staff are vaccinated it makes accessing food at the stores much safe for patrons.

Sincerely , Erin Bykowski

From:	Dean Zemel
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 12:20:46 PM

Dear Committee Member,

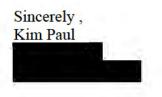
I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. They have been risking their health to provide for us the essentials we have needed throughout this pandemic. They deserve the greatest of protections now!

Sincerely , Dean Zemel

From:	Kim Paul
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 12:20:15 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. Without them, where would the rest of us be?



From:	William Lorman
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 12:11:02 PM

Dear Committee Member,

Please re-consider of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations.

You must understand the risk and cut it. Grocery stores are all ages of a few thousand of the general public exposed to hundreds of employees daily.

Sincerely , William Lorman

From:	Reed Prisk
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 12:10:50 PM

Dear SDMAC Vaccine Subcommittee Members:

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations.

When the Wisconsin's Safer at Home order went into effect back in March 2020, the Governor emphasized the imminent threat of COVID 19, the pandemic to all our Wisconsin citizens...

"Wisconsin, this is serious, the crisis is urgent. It's not safe to go out, it's not safe to have others over it's just not safe. And it might not be safe for a while yet"

Honestly, we were all scared, but at that point all of us, Essential Businesses and Critical Infrastructure Workers, had a job to do, and that was to take care of our community and ourselves as we went to war against this unseen enemy.

I am proud of the bravery our over 500 team members here at Metcalfe's Market had, along with all the other Essential and Critical Infrastructure Workers across our state, that put their own person lives on the line along with those that they love, as we pressed on to service this community during a raging pandemic.

Grocery workers have worked tirelessly throughout the pandemic and are as critical to our food supply as farmers. While our company takes every safety precaution possible for our team, the reality is that this team has been exposed to members of the public every day and put at increased risk of infection for nearly a year now. Even with capacity limits in place, our team of 150 – 200 employees are exposed to 2,500-3,500 customers each & every day at each of our (3) locations. Very few other Essential businesses have this type of daily public interaction during the current Community Spread stage of COVID 19 that we find ourselves in here in Wisconsin.

Grocery workers do not have the opportunity to do their jobs from home. When their role in our community requires them to be at their workplace day in & day out. It has been stressful for many of them to come to work every day, but they have endured and continued to provide a way for families in our community to have food on their tables.

Please allow this group who serve such a vital need in our community access to the COVID19 vaccine as early as possible and do not move them to group 1C.

Sincerely,

Reed Prisk Deli Manager Metcalfe's Market Hilldale 726 North Midvale Blvd Madison, Wi 53705 608-236-2033 reed.p@shopmetcalfes.com

From:	Mary Peter
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	vaccine subcommittee/phase 1B
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 12:01:00 PM

Dear SDMAC Vaccine Subcommittee Members:

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations.

When the Wisconsin's Safer at Home order went into effect back in March 2020, the Governor emphasized the imminent threat of COVID 19, the pandemic to all our Wisconsin citizens...

"Wisconsin, this is serious, the crisis is urgent. It's not safe to go out, it's not safe to have others over it's just not safe. And it might not be safe for a while yet"

Honestly, we were all scared, but at that point all of us, Essential Businesses and Critical Infrastructure Workers, had a job to do, and that was to take care of our community and ourselves as we went to war against this unseen enemy.

I am proud of the bravery of over 500 team members, here at Metcalfe's Market, along with all the other Essential and Critical Infrastructure Workers across our state, that put our own lives on the line along with those that they love, as we pressed on to service this community during a raging pandemic. Grocery workers have worked tirelessly throughout the pandemic and are as critical to our food supply as farmers. While my employer takes every safety precaution possible for our team, the reality is that this team has been exposed to members of the public every day and put at increased risk of infection for nearly a year now. Even with capacity limits in place, my coworkers, a team of 150 – 200 employees, are exposed to 2,500-3,500 customers each & every day at each of (3) locations. Very few other Essential businesses have this type of daily public interaction during the current Community Spread stage of COVID 19 that we find ourselves in here in Wisconsin.

Grocery workers do not have the opportunity to do their jobs from home. When their role in our community requires them to be at their workplace day in & day out. It has been stressful for many of us to come to work every day, but we have endured and continue to provide a way for families in our community to have food on their tables.

Please allow us, who serve such a vital need in our community, access to the COVID19 vaccine as early as possible and do not move them to group 1C.

Sincerely,

Mary Peter Floral Manager Metcalfe's Market Wauwatosa 6700 W State Street Wauwatosa WI 53213 (414)443-0059

From:	Rienne Voeller
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 11:57:26 AM

Dear Committee Member,

I write today as an employee of Sendik's Food Markets, a retail grocer serving the citizens of Wisconsin. I am asking you to consider including our industry in Wisconsin's tier 1B of the COVID-19 vaccination plan.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, my coworkers and I have been on the front lines serving our communities. We never shut down. We are face to face with the public 14 hours a day. There is no opportunity in our industry to work remotely.

We are the stockers, checkers, baggers, cart wipers, clerks, delivery drivers and order fillers that get food to the people of our state. We are the definition of a front line worker. We are proud of what we do and have continued to show up everyday to do our jobs despite risk of exposure to the virus from the tens of thousands of guests who come to our stores every week. Our jobs are essential to our state's food supply and we consistently have been called "heroes" for the work we have done and continue to do.

In their guidelines for COVID-19 vaccine distribution, the CDC specifically calls out "grocery workers" as essential and part of Phase 1b distribution. We are asking your committee to include grocery workers as part of Wisconsin's Phase 1b distribution plan.

Sincerely, **Rienne Voeller** 

From:	Rebecca Douglas
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 11:53:44 AM

Dear Committee Member,

I write today as an employee of Sendik's Food Markets, a retail grocer serving the citizens of Wisconsin. I am asking you to consider including our industry in Wisconsin's tier 1B of the COVID-19 vaccination plan.

Sincerely , Rebecca Douglas



#### JANUARY 14, 2021

#### TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I AM AN ESSENTIAL WORKER.

I WORK FOR WOODMAN'S FOOD MARKETS AND HAVE WORKED THROUGHOUT THIS ENTIRE PANDEMIC, IN A TIME OF NEED IN OUR COMMUNITIES. I HAVE WORKED HARD TO SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY MEMBERS, ENSURING THEY STILL HAVE ACCESS TO ESSENTIAL ITEMS TO SURVIVE IN A STATE OF UNKNOWN, I WORKED HARD TO SERVE OUR GUESTS, WITHOUT HESITATION. Cara Mengefan

IT HAS BEEN SCARY. WHEN EVERYONE ELSE HAS SHELTERED AT HOME, I STILL CAME AND CONTINUE TO COME TO WORK.

BUT NOW I AM TOLD I AM NOT AN ESSENTIAL WORKER. ALL OF MY HARD WORK AND SACRIFICE OF MYSELF, MY FAMILY AND MY LOVED ONES MEANS NOTHING. I AM NO LONGER A PRIORITY TO RECEIVE A VACCINE.

THIS IS NOT FAIR. WHY SHOULD I CONTINUE TO PUT MYSELF, MY FAMILY AND MY LOVED ONES HEALTH ON THE LINE WITHOUT PROTECTION?

AM I NO LONGER THE HERO YOU REFERRED TO ME AS BEFORE? I COME IN CONTACT WITH THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE EVERY DAY AND WEEK TO ENSURE THEY HAVE ACCESS TO THEIR FOOD AND OTHER ESSENTIAL NEEDS. HOW AM I NOT CONSIDERED TO BE A "PUBLIC FACING ESSENTIAL WORKER"? PLEASE TELL ME AS I DON'T UNDERSTAND.

I ASK YOU RECONSIDER YOUR RECOMMINEDATION AND PRIORITIZE ALL OF THE "HEROES" WHO HAVE WORKED HARD IN UNKNOWN AND SCARY TIMES TO SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITIES IN THEIR ESSENTIAL NEEDS.

I AM AN ESSENTIAL WORKER.

SIGNED.

From:	Woodrow McWilliams
То:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 11:47:18 AM
Attachments:	Outlook-zt0zkwb4.png

Dear SDMAC Vaccine Subcommittee Members:

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations.

When the Wisconsin's Safer at Home order went into effect back in March 2020, the Governor emphasized the imminent threat of COVID 19, the pandemic to all our Wisconsin citizens...

"Wisconsin, this is serious, the crisis is urgent. It's not safe to go out, it's not safe to have others over it's just not safe. And it might not be safe for a while yet"

Honestly, we were all scared, but at that point all of us, Essential Businesses and Critical Infrastructure Workers, had a job to do, and that was to take care of our community and ourselves as we went to war against this unseen enemy.

I am proud of the bravery our over 500 team members here at Metcalfe's Market had, along with all the other Essential and Critical Infrastructure Workers across our state, that put their own person lives on the line along with those that they love, as we pressed on to service this community during a raging pandemic.

Grocery workers have worked tirelessly throughout the pandemic and are as critical to our food supply as farmers. While our company takes every safety precaution possible for our team, the reality is that this team has been exposed to members of the public every day and put at increased risk of infection for nearly a year now. Even with capacity limits in place, our team of 150 – 200 employees are exposed to 2,500-3,500 customers each & every day at each of our (3) locations. Very few other Essential businesses have this type of daily public interaction during the current Community Spread stage of COVID 19 that we find ourselves in here in Wisconsin.

Grocery workers do not have the opportunity to do their jobs from home. When their role in our community requires them to be at their workplace day in & day out. It has been stressful for many of them to come to work every day, but they have endured and continued to provide a way for families in our community to have food on their tables. Please allow this group who serve such a vital need in our community access to the COVID19 vaccine as early as possible and do not move them to group 1C.

Sincerely,

Woodrow McWilliams Wine & Spirits Manager 608.238.7612

metcalfes

From:	Temte Jonathan L
To:	McCamy, Martha L - DHS (Synergy)
Subject:	FW: Please Consider Revising Public Facing Essential Workers in Group 1B
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 11:47:01 AM
Attachments:	image001.png

FYI...

Jon

From: Temte Jonathan L
Sent: Friday, January 15, 2021 11:46 AM
To: Amy Niemetscheck <aniemetscheck@certcoinc.com>; DHSSDMAC@dhs.wisconsin.gov
Subject: RE: Please Consider Revising Public Facing Essential Workers in Group 1B

Amy:

Thanks you for your comments. These have been forwarded to the entire vaccine committee.

Kind Reagrds,

Jon

Jonathan L. Temte, MD/PhD Associate Dean for Public Health and Community Engagement University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health Health Sciences Learning Center, Room 4260 750 Highland Avenue Madison, Wisconsin 53705

Telephone: 608-577-5846 email: <u>Jon.Temte@fammed.wisc.edu</u>

From: Amy Niemetscheck <aniemetscheck@certcoinc.com>
Sent: Friday, January 15, 2021 8:04 AM
To: DHSSDMAC@dhs.wisconsin.gov
Cc: Temte Jonathan L <Jon.Temte@fammed.wisc.edu>
Subject: Please Consider Revising Public Facing Essential Workers in Group 1B
Importance: High

### WARNING: This email appears to have originated outside of the UW Health email system. DO NOT CLICK on links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good morning,

Wisconsin's Safer At Home order went into effect on March 25, 2020. The goal of the order was to prohibit nonessential travel and limit gatherings to help flatten the curve of COVID-19 and ensure capacity of Wisconsin's health care system.

There were three industries noted in that order as being reasons to leave your home: Healthcare, Pharmacy and **Grocery (Food and Supplies).** 

As the leader of an Organization that employs over 530 employees that **provides over 130,000 cases** of food and supplies, including dry goods, cleaning products, paper products, meat, dairy, produce and frozen food to independent grocery stores around our state of Wisconsin **EVERY DAY**, I was so disheartened to share the news that our industry was moved down the list for potential COVID-19 vaccine with my employees.

I understand this committee is made up of many front-line heroes that were beyond critical and essential over the past 10 months, and you are more than deserving of the vaccine, I 100% support that direction. I agree with everyone that was in the Group 1A, they all need it more than the rest of us.

However, your recommendations of persons to be included in Group 1B I do not believe make sense. On October 29, 2020, the CDC published the "COVID-19 Vaccination Program Interim Playbook for Jurisdiction Operations". Their definition of Phase 1B was as follows: "People who play a key role in keeping essential functions of society running and cannot socially distance in the workplace (e.g....**food** packaging and **distribution workers**..."

As I read your "DMAC VDS Phase 1b Recommendations FOR PUBLIC COMMENT" document and review your idea of public-facing essential workers, you are considering:

- Persons in the back office of healthcare organizations, who I'm assuming can and have been doing their work remotely
- Mink Husbandry; the last I checked I have not seen mink running around the State of Wisconsin freely and persons constantly infected
- Incarcerated individuals; last I checked these are criminals, they are locked up, NOT IN PUBLIC EVERY DAY. Note, I do agree with vaccinating the guards and personnel that put themselves at risk daily.

How in the world do the above groups of people meet that definition of public facing or essential functions for society? And in the meantime, you read what the CDC gave very early on, and you are completely ignoring a critical group of true front-line public facing people.

If grocery stores have to close due to mass COVID-19 outbreaks, you are talking about almost every

living person in our State having an immediate problem, food and supplies. We are part of what is keeping "an essential function of society running", and social distancing at all times is a challenge.

Next, I try to consider in your rationale, perhaps they are unsure on how to reach those of us in the grocery and food supply industry and that is why they pushed us down the list?

As I stated in my business description, we are lucky to partner with stores across the state of Wisconsin, and the stores we service are the owners of Certco, Inc. We have three massive campuses in the Madison area, and we service all Woodmans Food Markets, whom I know also have opened up their campuses to leaders in charge of vaccine distribution; we also service Sendik's Food Markets in the Milwaukee area. If you provide a pharmacy partner, many of us utilize Walgreens to provide our employees with onsite flu shots every Fall, we will get you the masses of people. And they can drive-thru on our properties, or we will provide temporary tents, we are more than happy to assist with the creating destinations for grocers and those involved in the food supply to come to; let us help take the logistic challenge out of this by using our business sites.

I appreciate the time you took to read this comment, and for all of our stores and my employees in the food distribution business, I am hoping you reconsider the initial persons listed in Group 1B, and put true persons performing essential functions, grocers and food distribution personnel, in group 1B.

Thank you,

### Amy Niemetscheck



Direct: 608-270-2393 || Cell: 608-220-1130 5321 Verona Road Madison, Wisconsin 53711-6050 www.certcoinc.com

From:	Gullicksrud, Tera J.
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Distribution Subcommittee's recommendations for COVID19 Vaccine Priority Group 1B
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 11:44:23 AM
Importance:	High

1B should include ALL businesses that were 'deemed' essential and had to stay open to the public and work throughout this entire pandemic.

Please include grocery and food industry workers on your 1B distribution list. These businesses have NOT closed and put themselves and employees at risk every day. They have also had to manage staffing challenges due to COVID illness and quarantines at the same time manage supply shortages.

Do not overlook this group of absolutely essential works. Take care of those that take care of WI.

Thank you,

Tera Gullicksrud | Revenue Analyst II | Revenue Cycle | (715) 838-5919 | gullicksrud.tera@mayo.edu Mayo Clinic Health System | 727 Kenny Ave. Eau Claire, WI 54701 | www.mayoclinichealthsystem.org

From:	Karen Bodin
То:	DHS_SDMAC
Subject:	vaccine subcommittee Phase 1 B
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 11:44:12 AM
Attachments:	image003.png
	image004.png

I am writing in response to the upcoming next phase of vaccinations.

Please consider food producers in the next group eligible for the vaccine.

My husband runs a family run fisheries in Bayfield, WI. In the early phases of COVID he worked non stop to run it by himself because of lack of funding to pay employees with restaurants closed down plus trying to minimize the spread of COVID. He was able to add on just 2 employees during the summer to meet the growing demand for fresh fish by locals , for community food boxes and to be shipped , grocery stores and restaurants for take-out.

If he gets COVID the business could not run and a lot of people are depending on this source of food especially with the rising cost of beef. He did all of this while being at high risk because of medical dx.

Thank you for your consideration of this type of worker in the next phase.

Karen Bodín RN Adult Protectíve Services

Bayfield County Department of Human Services PO Box 100 117 East 5th St. Washburn, WI 54891 Phone: (715) 373-6144 **ext 83359** (715) 373-6128 (Fax) kbodin@bayfieldcounty.org





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From:	William Bauer
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 11:36:21 AM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. Our business has become an essential shopping stop for many local residents, especially the elderly that don't want to be exposed to large crowds. We have employees in our industry that have worked long hard hours since the pandemic started, and our exposed to the virus every day just like those in the medical field. We in the grocery business can't work from home we need to be here everyday on the front lines, because our customers need us so they have food for their families. Please help protect us, so our businesses can stay open for our customers.

Sincerely , William Bauer

From:	West Pricing
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	vaccine subcommittee phase 1B
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 11:35:13 AM

Dear SDMAC Vaccine Subcommittee Members:

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations.

When the Wisconsin's Safer at Home order went into effect back in March 2020, the Governor emphasized the imminent threat of COVID 19, the pandemic to all our Wisconsin citizens...

"Wisconsin, this is serious, the crisis is urgent. It's not safe to go out, it's not safe to have others over it's just not safe. And it might not be safe for a while yet"

Honestly, we were all scared, but at that point all of us, Essential Businesses and Critical Infrastructure Workers, had a job to do, and that was to take care of our community and ourselves as we went to war against this unseen enemy.

I am proud of the bravery our over 500 team members here at Metcalfe's Market had, along with all the other Essential and Critical Infrastructure Workers across our state, that put their own person lives on the line along with those that they love, as we pressed on to service this community during a raging pandemic.

Grocery workers have worked tirelessly throughout the pandemic and are as critical to our food supply as farmers. While our company takes every safety precaution possible for our team, the reality is that this team has been exposed to members of the public every day and put at increased risk of infection for nearly a year now. Even with capacity limits in place, our team of 150 – 200 employees are exposed to 2,500-3,500 customers each & every day at each of our (3) locations. Very few other Essential businesses have this type of daily public interaction during the current Community Spread stage of COVID 19 that we find ourselves in here in Wisconsin.

Grocery workers do not have the opportunity to do their jobs from home. When their role in our community requires them to be at their workplace day in & day out. It has been stressful for many of them to come to work every day, but they have endured and continued to provide a way for families in our community to have food on their tables.

Please allow this group who serve such a vital need in our community access to the COVID19 vaccine as early as possible and do not move them to group 1C.

Sincerely,

James Lund

Store Pricing Coordinator west.pricing@shopmetcalfes.com Metcalfe's Market - West 7455 Mineral Point Rd. Madison, WI 53717 p: 608.829.3500

Lydia Albrecht
DHS SDMAC
vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Friday, January 15, 2021 11:34:36 AM

Dear Committee Member,

I write today as an employee of Sendik's Food Markets, a retail grocer serving the citizens of Wisconsin. I am asking you to consider including our industry in Wisconsin's tier 1B of the COVID-19 vaccination plan.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, my coworkers and I have been on the front lines serving our communities. We never shut down. We are face to face with the public 14 hours a day. There is no opportunity in our industry to work remotely.

We are the stockers, checkers, baggers, cart wipers, clerks, delivery drivers and order fillers that get food to the people of our state. We are the definition of a front line worker. We are proud of what we do and have continued to show up everyday to do our jobs despite risk of exposure to the virus from the tens of thousands of guests who come to our stores every week. Our jobs are essential to our state's food supply and we consistently have been called "heroes" for the work we have done and continue to do.

In their guidelines for COVID-19 vaccine distribution, the CDC specifically calls out "grocery workers" as essential and part of Phase 1b distribution. We are asking your committee to include grocery workers as part of Wisconsin's Phase 1b distribution plan.

Sincerely, Lydia Albrecht

From:	Verlene Morrison
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 11:16:39 AM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations.

As our grocery stores try to serve all our customers there are many times that we have to use staff less qualified to fill in. Sometimes not giving the 100% customer service that Hansen's strive for. Having all staff getting the vaccinations as soon as possible could help many of our grocery customers get the requested service.

Sincerely , Verlene Morrison

Dear Committee Member,

I write today as an employee of Sendik's Food Markets, a retail grocer serving the citizens of Wisconsin. I am asking you to consider including our industry in Wisconsin's tier 1B of the COVID-19 vaccination plan.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, my coworkers and I have been on the front lines serving our communities. We never shut down. Our jobs are essential to our state's food supply and we consistently have been called "heroes" for the work we have done and continue to do.

In their guidelines for COVID-19 vaccine distribution, the CDC specifically calls out "grocery workers" as essential and part of Phase 1b distribution. We are asking your committee to include grocery workers as part of Wisconsin's Phase 1b distribution plan.

Sincerely , Julianna Fazio

From:	Madisen Waters
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 11:06:16 AM
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Dear Committee Member,

I write today as an employee of Sendik's Food Markets, a retail grocer serving the citizens of Wisconsin. I am asking you to consider including our industry in Wisconsin's tier 1B of the COVID-19 vaccination plan.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, my coworkers and I have been on the front lines serving our communities. We never shut down. Our jobs are essential to our state's food supply and we consistently have been called "heroes" for the work we have done and continue to do.

In their guidelines for COVID-19 vaccine distribution, the CDC specifically calls out "grocery workers" as essential and part of Phase 1b distribution. We are asking your committee to include grocery workers as part of Wisconsin's Phase 1b distribution plan.

Sincerely , Madisen Waters

### TO WHOM THIS MAY CONCERN

I AM AN ESSENTIAL WORKER.

I WORK FOR WOODMANS FOOD MARKETS AND HAVE WORKED THROUGHOUT THIS ENTIRE PANDEMIC, IN A TIME OF NEED IN OUR COMMUNITIES. I HAVE WORKED HARD TO SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY MEMBERS, ENSURING THEY STILL HAVE ACESS TO ESSENTIAL ITEMS TO SURVIVE IN A STATE OF UNKOWN. I WORKED HARD TO SERVE OUR GUESTS, SOMETIME IN HOSTILE SITUATIONS, WITHOUT HESITATION.

IT HAS BEEN SCARY. WHEN EVERYONE ELSE HAS SHELTERED AT HOME, I STILL CAME IN DAY IN AND DAY OUT.

I ALSO, CARE FOR MY MOTHER WHO HAS UNDERLYING HEALTH ISSUES. IF SHE WERE TO GET INFECTED BY THIS DISEASE, SHE MOST CERTAINLY WOULDN'T SURVIVE. BUT YET, I STILL COME IN DAY IN AND DAY OUT.

BUT NOW I AM TOLD I AM NOT AN ESSENTIAL WORKER. ALL OF MY HARD WORK AND SACRIFICE OF MYSELF, MY FAMILY AND MY LOVED ONES MEANS NOTHING. I AM NO LONGER A PRIORITY TO RECEIVE A VACCINE.

THIS ISN'T FAIR. WHY SHOULD I CONTINUE TO PUT MYSELF, MY FAMILY AND MY LOVED ONES HEALTH ON THE LINE WITHOUT PROTECTION?

AM I NO LONGER THE HERO YOU REFERRED TO ME BEFORE? I COME IN CONTACT WITH THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE EVERYDAY AND WEEK TO ENSURE THEY HAVE ACCESS TO THEIR FOOD AND OTHER ESSENTIAL NEEDS. HOW AM I NOT CONSIDERED TO BE A "PUBLIC FACING ESSENTIAL WORKER"? I AM FACING THE PUBLIC, CORRECT? I AM SELLING ESSENTIAL ITEMS, CORRECT? PLEASE TELL ME CAUSE I DO NOT UNDERSTAND!

I ASK YOU TO RECONSIDER YOUR RECOMMENDATION AND PRIORITIZE ALL OF THE "HEROES" WHO HAVE WORKED HARD AND TIRELESSLY IN UNKOWN AND SCARY TIMES TO SUPPORT OUT COMMUNITIES AND YOURSELVES IN THEIR ESSENTIAL NEEDS.

I AM AN ESSENTIAL WORKER!!

SIGNED,

Nicole M Hansen

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From:	Paula Severson
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 10:57:18 AM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. They stayed open when everything else closed down and are the unsung heroes of the pandemic!

Sincerely, Paula Severson Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. We all have worked very hard to serve our community during this difficult time and i believe we deserve the chance to be vaccinated sooner than later. Please help me to protect myself and my family. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely , Jeanie Elmhorst

