



To: Azita Hamedani, MD, Chair
Members, WI State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee
From: Scott Stenger, Legislative Director
Alliance of Wisconsin Retailers
Date: January 18, 2021
Re: COVID-19 Vaccination Prioritization for Retail Employees

●
Best Buy
Co., Inc.

Blain's
Farm & Fleet

Home Depot

JCPenney

Kohl's

Lowe's

Macy's

meijer

Sears Holding
Corporation

Target

As you continue your work to develop distribution guidelines for the COVID-19 vaccine, we write to share with you information regarding the essential activities of retail employees. We understand the difficulty of prioritizing the vaccinations, and want to ensure you have a full understanding of the necessity of retail employees in Wisconsin so that you may schedule them appropriately.

Since the beginning of the Pandemic, most retailers remained open across the state to ensure Wisconsin citizens had access to the essential items they required. While the pandemic disrupted most facets of our daily lives, citizens depended on the state's retailers like never before. Grocery stores needed to remain open to maintain the food supply. Employees working from home needed electronics and office supplies for their temporary work spaces. Home improvement centers needed to continue to assist customers with essential home repairs and disaster preparedness and response. And demand for work clothing and footwear didn't diminish because we were in a pandemic.

Wisconsin retailers met this challenge head on by implementing dramatic new guidelines to protect consumers and employees alike. From increasing physical distancing, to installing protective shields, utilizing PPE and implementing reduced contact pickup of purchased items, to name a few. Still, with all the precautions that have been implemented, it is not possible to completely eliminate the risk to employees. While many industries can utilize employees working from home – retail employees must be in stores to assist customers with their essential needs, and unfortunately, there is no way to completely ensure these employees are not exposed to COVID-19.

A recent Journal Sentinel report suggested that the Committee was considering inclusion of some essential workers in Phase 1C. We wholeheartedly agree that the highest priority for vaccine distribution should be on our state's most vulnerable citizens, as well as those who care for them on a daily basis, first responders, classroom teachers and individuals with high-risk medical conditions. We respectfully request that you take under consideration the essential work Wisconsin's retail employees do on a daily basis as well as their exposure to countless members of the public as you finalize the state's priority schedule. In addition, Wisconsin retailers stand ready to assist the state in any way possible to help facilitate the distribution and administration of the vaccine to its citizens. Please do not hesitate to contact us if there is a way we can be of assistance.

We appreciate the difficult task you have before you, as well as your efforts on behalf of all citizens of Wisconsin. Thank you for the consideration of this information.

From: [Kathleen Golden](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine grocery store workers
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:38:10 AM

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

These people face a non-conforming customer (no mask) ever day. They need protection. Put them back on the list of essential workers please. Kathy golden. Fox Point Wis

From: [Kristin LaPean](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:37:52 AM
Attachments: 202101180943.pdf

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From: 22-Copier@woodmans-food.com <22-Copier@woodmans-food.com>
Sent: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:43 AM
To: Kristin LaPean <Kristin.LaPean@woodmans-food.com>
Subject: Message from "22COPIER"

This E-mail was sent from "22COPIER" (MP 4002).

Scan Date: 01.18.2021 09:43:01 (-0600)
Queries to: 22-Copier@woodmans-food.com

From: [Kirsten Moore](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Cc: [Jeannine Bindl](#); [Anya Firszt](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:36:28 AM

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TO: Ann Lewandowski and Jonathan Temte, Co-Chairs, Wisconsin State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee Vaccine Distribution Subcommittee

Dear Ms. Lewandowski and Mr. Temte,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the recommendations for COVID-19 Vaccine Priority Group 1B. On behalf of our 360+ employees and 34,600 consumer-owners of the Williamson Street Grocery Cooperative, we urge the committee to include grocery store workers as qualified for Tier 1B vaccinations as per the recommendations of the U. S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention.

Grocery store workers meet the stated definition of front line, public-facing, essential workers. They are not able to work from home, may not refrain from contact with the public, and were previously defined essential in Wisconsin Emergency Order 12: Safer At Home. Emergency Order 12 defined grocery stores as essential businesses and provided our workers with Tier 2 prioritization for childcare. We understood this to mean providing food, a human right, was vital to the health of our community. If grocers are essential enough to stay open for the citizens of our great State, our great workers are essential enough to remain defined as front line workers to be vaccinated.

Our front line workers, our business, and our community deserve the extra security vaccinating our employees early will provide: protection for our staff to continue keeping the public fed, and added protection for our customers who may rely on shopping our business in person.

We have taken your definition of essential to heart in all we do: from the additional PPE our employees and customers are expected to wear every day, to the changes to services and procedures our workers have adopted with grace and goodwill, to the capacity limits we place on our business ahead of profit, all to ensure that the public and our employees have as much physical distancing as possible. Our workers adapt to ever-changing recommendations and guidelines, bear the brunt of face covering scofflaws, and many of them take extra care to keep distance from friends and loved

ones to keep them safe from the public exposure to COVID-19 workers face every day.

Please consider including our workers in Tier 1B for vaccination as essential as your word that we are essential. The State recognizes the public service we provide and for that our workers deserve your protection. We appreciate your consideration, and urge you to align your current recommendations with Federal guidance and your own definitions of front line work.

Sincerely,

Jeannine Bindl, Board President
Anya Firszt, General Manager
Kirsten Moore, Cooperative Services Director
Williamson Street Grocery Cooperative

From: [JAMES DICKHUT](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:35:11 AM

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Please include Grocery Store employees in Phase 1B of the COVID 19 vaccine distribution as these people are essential.

Thank you,

Jim Dickhut

From: [Christina Toth](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee, phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:34:56 AM

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First, thank you for the work you are doing to help us Wisconsinites during this very difficult time.

Secondly, PLEASE INCLUDE GROCERY STORE WORKERS in phase 1B. I feel it would be a terrible slap in the face to all these precious people who have risked their lives to provide groceries for us all these months.

Sincerely,
Christina Toth
Glendale, WI

From: [dave hartman](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:34:42 AM

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Your grocery store workers have been on the front lines for the last 10 months. To not include them in this grouping is unconscionable if not criminal.

They don't wear hazmat suits for a photo-opp. on an Election Day but instead have been grinding it out daily to keep consumers fed and their employer's businesses thriving. Please reconsider your decision and include this group in Phase 1B.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Gail Johnson](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: COVID 19 vaccine recipients
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:33:04 AM

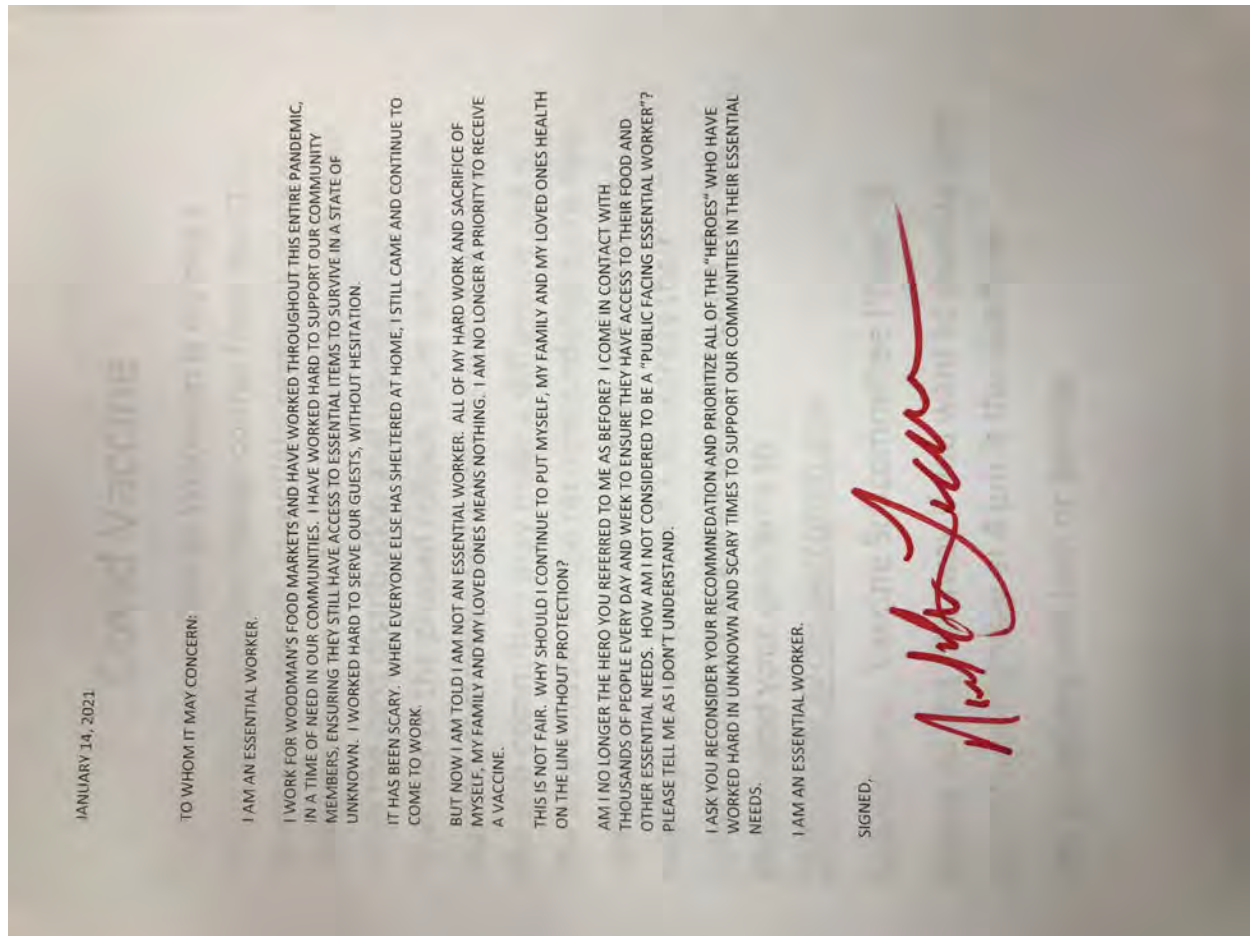
Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

I skimmed the information and did not see grocery store workers included. Even people who mostly stay at home usually go to the grocery store. I think these workers should be protected especially with this new strain which spreads more easily. Thank you.

Sent from Gail's iPad

From: [\[Redacted\]](#)
To: [\[Redacted\]](#)
Subject: Vaccine
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021, 10:30:05 AM

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [Rebecca Desch](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee + phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:28:04 AM

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Dear Vaccine subcommittee,

I urge you to keep grocery store workers in the essential workers category to be the next recipients of the COVID-19 vaccine. These workers have been showing up since day one to keep our food supply chain intact. The stores I support have been following strict covid-19 safety protocols provided by your organization. They deserve to be next in line. They are essential and we need these workers to stay healthy so the stores can remain open and operating at full capacity.

Thank you for all the difficult work you are doing to keep us informed to make the correct decisions for our families, homes, health. Your guidelines help to keep our communities strong

Kind regards,
Rebecca Desch
(Milwaukee)

From: [Nezar Basily](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Sub Committee / Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:28:02 AM

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Dear Wisconsin State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee,

The pandemic has changed almost everything, but throughout, one constant has been our ability to get food. Food Processing and grocery workers have kept our communities running, and when others could be safe at home, they could not. First responders, the elderly, and teachers should be a priority but, so should workers on the frontlines of these industries who continue to put themselves and their families at risk to keep us fed.

Federal recommendations from the CDC say that food processing and grocery workers should get vaccinated in Phase 1B alongside other frontline essential workers. Wisconsin has relegated these workers to Phase 1C without justification. I urge you to reconsider this position and include food processing and grocery workers in Phase 1B.

Thank you,
Nezar Basily
First shift production supervisor
703 W Madison St, Waterloo, WI 53594
Cell(608)957-2012



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From: [Nichole Wintheiser](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:27:59 AM

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From: [Carie Zasada](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:27:21 AM

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Dear Wisconsin State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee,

The pandemic has changed almost everything, but throughout, one constant has been our ability to get food. Food Processing and grocery workers have kept our communities running, and when others could be safe at home, they could not. First responders, the elderly, and teachers should be a priority but, so should workers on the frontlines of these industries who continue to put themselves at risk to keep us fed.

Federal recommendations from the CDC say that food processing and grocery workers should get vaccinated in Phase 1B alongside other frontline essential workers. Wisconsin has relegated these workers to Phase 1C without justification. I urge you to reconsider this position and include food processing and grocery workers in Phase 1B.

Carie Zasada



Accounts Payable
920-478-2144 Ext. 218

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From: [Eric Girard](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B for Food Workers
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:26:59 AM

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Dear Wisconsin State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee,

The pandemic has changed almost everything, but throughout, one constant has been our ability to get food. Food Processing and grocery workers have kept our communities running, and when others could be safe at home, they could not. First responders, the elderly, and teachers should be a priority but, so should workers on the frontlines of these industries who continue to put themselves at risk to keep us fed.

Federal recommendations from the CDC say that food processing and grocery workers should get vaccinated in Phase 1B alongside other frontline essential workers. Wisconsin has relegated these workers to Phase 1C without justification. I urge you to reconsider this position and include food processing and grocery workers in Phase 1B.

Eric Girard


From: [Mike Seiler](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1b
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:26:43 AM

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To whom this may concern,

I find it incredible that grocery store workers are not being included in the next round of vaccines. They are extremely essential and put their lives at risk on a daily basis. I would ask you to reconsider and include them in the 1B grouping. I do not work in the industry nor do any of my friends and family so I have nothing to gain from this.

Sincerely,
Mike Seiler
De Pere, WI

From: [Teresa Valent](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee re: Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:26:13 AM

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Please reconsider recommendations for phase 1B of vaccination protocols to include grocery workers who likely have had the most contact with people in the community on a daily basis throughout the pandemic. Most people I know have not been to a hospital, or doctor's office. However, most people I know have been to the grocery store regularly. I believe including them in phase 1B will save additional lives.

Respectfully,
Teresa Valent
53202

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Ruth Williams](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:26:10 AM

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Please include our grocer workers in the next wave of covid19 vaccines phase1B... They are definitely essential frontline workers... The grocery stores have remained open from the onset of the pandemic even during the most crucial times we faced in the very beginning when other businesses had closed..

Ruth Williams

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

From: [Scott Grevenow](#)
To: [Willems Van Dijk, Julie A - DHS](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:24:26 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. 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,
Scott Grevenow



From: [Schlegel](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:23:54 AM

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Hello,

I believe that grocery store and restaurant workers should be included in the 1B phase. They are essential workers. Please vote to protect them as soon as possible!

Thank you.

Ryan Schlegel

From: sbiasi@wi.rr.com
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1B vaccine / Vaccine subcommittee
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:22:54 AM

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I believe the following should be included in the 1B Vaccine phase.

- 1) Educators
- 2) Individual / Adults with extending health concerns / pre existing health concerns. (examples asthma, heart disease, etc)
- 3) Essential workers, (Grocery, Educators,)
- 4) Corrections officer, NOT Inmates.

From: [Guy Hansen](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Cc: [rafp](#)
Subject: Covid -19 Vaccinations
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:21:24 AM

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Good morning—Please include food emergency (Food Pantry) front line workers in the 1B group to receive vaccinations. Although we have literally hundreds of volunteers at our food pantry this group would include fewer than 10 staff and volunteers who are at The Pantry daily or nearly every day.

They serve a vital function in providing food to those members of our community left behind by our economy or the effect of the Covid -19 shutdown.

Our Food pantry customers may visit The Pantry every 14 days and they receive about 80 pounds of food, including fresh produce, meat and dairy per visit. We typically serve about 400 households each month.

Thanks for your consideration. Guy Hansen - Rhinelander Area Food Pantry – Executive Director

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: [Tammie M. Nelson](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Grocery industry/ Covid 19 vaccine
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:19:49 AM
Attachments: image001.png

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1-18-2021

State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee (SDMAC)
Vaccine Subcommittee
Via email: dhssdmac@dhs.wisconsin.gov

Dear Vaccine Subcommittee Members,

I write today as an employee of Certco, Inc. We are a wholesale grocery distributor who service independent grocery stores in Wisconsin, along with other states in the upper Midwest. We are owned by the grocery stores that we service.

I ask that there be reconsideration and you include our industry in tier 1B in the COVID-19 vaccination plan. CDC guidance on the COVID-19 vaccine distribution was released even before the announcement of a vaccine, and had our industry listed as part of tier 1B, as essential public facing workers.

I am disheartened to hear the committee is not following this guidance and is instead recommending our industry should receive the vaccine as part of tier 1C.

All healthcare workers, public safety workers and child care center workers are factored in tier 1A and 1B. Grocery workers and food supply essential workers were also mentioned in the same breath as these industries since early March of 2020 and called "Heroes". Yet, we are now left without the benefit of hope that these same individuals are getting.

Please reconsider your revised plan for Tier 1B to include our industry.

Moving the age tier down to include individuals above age 70, instead of 75 years of age, is protecting a new group that has been kept safe by the State orders to stay home, and they have been fed due to us and the stores we service.

Food is essential to the survival for all mankind, regardless of age. My coworkers and I have been working tirelessly to ensure people have the food and supplies they need available to them in order to follow the "Shelter in Place" and "Safer at Home" orders set forth by the state of Wisconsin. Without me and my co-workers remaining healthy and the grocery store workers staying healthy, we will have a much larger issue on our hands in keeping the food available to all Wisconsin residents.

To be called heroes for 10 months and have this glimmer of hope for a vaccine ripped out of our hands is a shame. Please reconsider.

Sincerely,

Tammie Nelson

HR Generalist & Benefits Specialist



SERVING THE REAL INDEPENDENT GROCERS!

Direct: 608-270-2389 || Fax 608-270-2386

5321 Verona Road Madison, Wisconsin 53711-6050

www.certcoinc.com

From: [Ali Fuerst](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:19:29 AM

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I respectfully request the inclusion of food supply employees be considered for the next phase of COVID-19 vaccinations.

A consistent food supply is important to everyone. Including grocery store employees, who have been regarded as essential throughout this pandemic, in the next phase of vaccinations would ensure a strong, necessary link in the supply chain. Food processing and grocery store employees come into contact with hundreds of people with each shift they work. Not many groups have this level of exposure.

We can do without many things, but food isn't one of them.

Thank you for your time,
Alison Fuerst



From: [Sue Saxhaug](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:18:40 AM

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I do not agree that prisoners and mink farmers should be included in Phase 1B while grocery workers who have been on the front line since the beginning of the pandemic have been excluded. Everyone needs food and grocery workers need the protection offered by the vaccine in the next phase.

I also think it would be less confusing to the public to include those 65 and over in the next phase to stay in alignment with CDC guidelines.

Sue Saxhaug

From: [Pam Moore](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1B; Vaccine Subcommittee
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:18:19 AM

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To Whom it May Concern:

Please reconsider who should be next in line for the COVID vaccine. **Grocery store employees** and **Public Library employees** should have high priority in **Phase 1B**. They've been dealing with the clueless public, putting themselves at risk on a daily basis for the good of all, during the entire pandemic. Having these 'front line workers' vaccinated sooner rather than later can only lead to a swifter eradication of the spread of this horrible disease.

Thank you for your time.

Pam Moore

From: [Lucia Mennen](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Grocery store workers are essential and deserve a vaccine
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:17:55 AM

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To the members of the Vaccine Distribution Subcommittee and Governor Evers:

I was disappointed to learn of the sub committee's recommendation to exclude grocery store workers from the Phase 1 rollout of the vaccine distribution.

Not only are these grocery industry employees essential, they have to deal with the difficult customers who are unaware of Biology 101 basics. We've all seen videos of these individuals - but the grocery store employees have to deal with it in person - daily - and have to guess whether or not a gentle reminder will result in an open confrontation. They have had to deal with this from the beginning, when we were still learning about the transmission and outcomes of this virus.

Their only protection thus far has been minimal with non-medical masks or fabric face coverings. At least offer these front-line workers *some protection* against the virus that is being carried and spread by the uninformed and non-compliant among us. After months of uncertainty, they should be allowed the small comfort of knowing they are important enough to be supported by our state government.

Best regards,

Lucia Mennen

From: [Jeffrey Barber](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:16:48 AM

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From: [Adam Buelow](#)
To: [Willems Van Dijk, Julie A - DHS](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:16:18 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. 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,
Adam Buelow

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

From: [pj.b](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: PLEASE READ:Grocery Store Staff- Covid Vaccine
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:16:15 AM

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Hi,

I believe all Wisconsin grocery store personnel should be next with first responders to receive the Covid vaccine. We all go grocery shopping at least once a week and put these employees at great risk for exposure.

Best Regards,

P. Berens

Get [Outlook for Android](#)

From: [Allison Barber p](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:15:25 AM

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From: [Hung Hoang](#)
To: [Willems Van Dijk, Julie A - DHS](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:15:05 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. 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,

Sincerely,
Hung Hoang



From: [Sam Andrekus](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1B Recommendations Food/Manufacturing CO Vaccine Subcommittee
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:14:45 AM

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To whom it may concern,

I am very pleased with the county's ability to distribute vaccines to those that need it so far and I would like to bring attention to those of us working in the food manufacturing industry. We have suffered much downtime as a direct result of folks who have contracted the disease and because the nature of our work often involves close quarters and teamwork, we often have to quarantine multiple employees based off one contracting the illness which results in more downtime. The physical nature of the work of many of us employed also means that even when the disease has run its course, there are those of us unable to do their job at 100% for a long, long time.

I am not trying to come across as selfish, I am just trying to advocate for myself and those of us in the same position who have had the ability to work in person, in these conditions, for the duration of the pandemic. We would like to see as few cases of COVID as possible and I feel that if those of us who wished were able to get vaccinated soon, it would help us all a great deal.

Thank you for your consideration and thank you for what you've accomplished so far.

Sam Andrekus

From: [roberto](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:13:12 AM

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Though my wife and I are over 70 and she's on chemotherapy, we both feel that front line workers such as grocery workers should get the vaccine before we do. Our grocery stores have been at times the only places we shop and they are exposed on a daily basis. Their job would be safer if everyone wore a mask. All of the stores have a sign requiring masks but too many times it is not enforced. Thank you for listening to my concerns.

Robert and Susan Orlowski
Beaver Dam, WI

From: [Margaret Orlando](#)
To: [Willems Van Dijk, Julie A - DHS](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:12:07 AM

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

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 Metcalfe's Market in Wauwatosa, WI takes every safety precaution possible for our team, the reality is that our 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.

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 not move them to group 1C.

Sincerely ,
Margaret Orlando



From: [Miriam Jakobitz](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccinate Grocery Cashiers
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:11:40 AM

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I apologize in advance if this is an improper way to communicate that I believe that cashiers and front of house staff at grocery stores need and deserve access to vaccination for virus.

It will really help slow the spread of the virus and that keeps people like me safer!

I am fortunate and I stay home and stay safe. Although, I have to go out weekly to hospital for pheresis. Citizens that operate cash registers so people can pay for their food are very important. Please communicate to appropriate persons!

Please keep making smart decisions and stop the spread!

Mrs. Miriam L Jakobitz Age 48



From: [Steve Byrnes](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Sub Committee / Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:10:49 AM
Attachments: image001.png
image003.png
image004.png
image005.png
image006.png
image007.png
image008.png

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Dear Wisconsin State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee,

The pandemic has changed almost everything, but throughout, one constant has been our ability to get food. Food Processing and grocery workers have kept our communities running, and when others could be safe at home, they could not. First responders, the elderly, and teachers should be a priority but, so should workers on the frontlines of these industries who continue to put themselves at risk to keep us fed.

Federal recommendations from the CDC say that food processing and grocery workers should get vaccinated in Phase 1B alongside other frontline essential workers. Wisconsin has relegated these workers to Phase 1C without justification. I urge you to reconsider this position and include food processing and grocery workers in Phase 1B.

Respectfully,

STEVE BYRNES *President*

703 West Madison Street
Waterloo, WI 53594
P: 920-478-2144 ext. 222



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From: [Rebecca Hinner](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:10:25 AM

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Good morning

I heard on the news this morning Prisoners are in Phase 1B. Seriously???? What are you thinking???

Prisoners before grocery store workers who put themselves at risk everyday so that we can get food for our families? What do Prisoners do for the public?? And furthermore, I am a 58 year old, law abiding citizen and my husband is 68 and has a kidney disease. And a Prisoner gets the vaccine before us??? And again, I am mentioning we are law abiding, working tax paying citizens!!! Do we have to commit a crime before getting the vaccine??

Something is seriously wrong with your committee and their decisions! Please reply and explain to me why a Prisoner should have a vaccine before essential workers and myself.

Very disappointed and very concerned citizen,

Rebecca Hinner

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Michael Switzenbaum](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Grocery workers
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:07:30 AM

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

> Please include grocery workers in this group. They are exposed to many people every day and have kept us safe with curbside pickup-ups. Many have underlying conditions and live in multigenerational households. We are 70 years old and want them go before us.

> Thanks for your consideration,

From: [Cara Farrow](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: COVID vaccine group 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:07:30 AM

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Please add grocery workers to this list now.

They are what stands between all of us having access to food and chaos/store break ins if the stores close.

They have close contact with folks from all over who abide and do not abide by COVID protocol.

Knowing people in this industry, it is very common to hear another one of their co-workers is out with COVID and prior to being diagnosed - who knows if they unknowingly infected other staff or shoppers!!

Thank you,
Cara

From: [Gary Seidlitz](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee - Phase 1B - Please Include Grocery Employees
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:06:44 AM

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

Dear DHS Wisconsin,

I urge you to please follow CDC guidelines and include grocery store workers in the Phase 1B of the COVID-19 vaccination plan. My wife is an essential worker by working a local grocery store in Milwaukee. She is in daily contact with the general public to provide food for our fellow Wisconsinites. She constantly has to confront idiots who refuse to wear masks. Thereby, putting her at risk and the entire store. If she or any of her co-workers catch covid-19, the whole store will have to shut down. This would be detrimental to the employees and to all of those who rely this store to provide food for their families.

Please help them to do their job by providing them with the safety of the vaccine as soon as possible.

Thank you,

Gary Seidlitz


From: [Cynthia Coulthurst](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Attention: Vaccine Subcommittee
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:05:16 AM

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

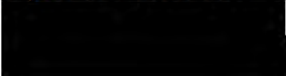
I became aware this morning that Wisconsin is planning to remove grocery store workers from the essential workers list thereby placing them behind others prioritized to receive the life saving covid vaccine. Normally I express my opinions simply by voting, but this morning I am compelled to contact you to assure that you are aware how alienating this action will be to the average Wisconsin citizen.

When this pandemic first hit, grocery store workers were considered essential. Their bravery provided options for people who were afraid to leave their homes the opportunity to access groceries when no one was leaving their quarantines. They quickly and efficiently enacted policies that made us all feel safer. All with a smile on their faces. All while they were fearful for their own lives and the lives of people who depended on them. Not once did I experience poor customer service. No matter where I went to grocery shop, Pic & Sav, Walmart, Piggly Wiggly, Aldi, Sam's Club, and others, employees were there working hard to provide the services we all depend on. And they did this while cheerfully reminding all of us to wear our masks. Without exception, each time I entered a store there were customers there not wearing masks properly or not wearing masks at all! I had the privilege to leave the store, but grocery employees did NOT. And they still do NOT!

Grocery store workers remain ESSENTIAL. Nothing has changed. They do not have powerful unions supporting them like teachers and the like. They deserve our support.

Do the right thing, Governor Evers. Do not remove grocery store workers from the essential employee classification. Nothing has changed. They are still essential. Reward them for their hard work during this pandemic. They were there when we needed them. Now is not the time to abandon them.

Sincerely,
Cynthia Coulthurst



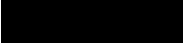
From: [Brittany Bula](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee - Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:05:07 AM
Attachments: dhs letter.docx

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

Good Morning
Please see the attached letter about Phase 1B.
Thank you

--

Brittany Bula



Bula Land Company
715-335-6780

Ponderosa Pines
715-335-2267

Fax: 715-335-6788

From: [Chad](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee and Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:04:21 AM

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To whom it may concern,

I was recently informed that inmates were being given higher priority than essential workers such as grocery store employees, teachers, day care workers and others that supply products and services to healthcare facilities, police departments, food service facilities and other similar organizations or service providers. In my opinion, inmates should be the lowest priority at this time. They are in controlled environments and only pose a risk to themselves. The other people I have mentioned have a greater possibility to get infected or to infect others through their daily activities. That spreading has a greater risk of exposing others in the community. If the concern is for the guards and others providing services within the prison facilities, those people should be vaccinated. I would consider these people, at a minimum, as essential workers and have a high risk of being exposed and spreading it throughout the community outside of the prisons.

Regarding essential workers, our company, Superior Paper Products in Marshfield, is considered essential. We provide paper products for the infrastructures of hospitals, police departments, food service facilities, grocery stores and other similar organizations. These organizations need our products to continue to provide the services they do. We have had a few employees that have tested positive for Covid-19 and have followed health department guidelines for quarantining. These employees have been able to return to work. However, we do have the risk of a potential outbreak that could cause our facility to shut down which would stop our ability to supply the products that the aforementioned organizations need. Therefore, we would like our employees to be considered as part of Phase 1B.

Thank you for your consideration.

Chad X. Steers
Superior Paper Products
cxsteers@superiorpaperproducts.com
920-671-9877





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ASSOCIATION



MARSHFIELD
AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
Life. Science. Fueling Our Growth.



From: [Michael Sowiak](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee and Phase 1b
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:02:27 AM

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I agree with agree with the subcommittee recommendations for Phase 1 b. Let's go and get it done!

I also think the grocery workers should be part of 1c.

Michael and Sally Sowiak

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [Mary Harrison](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: "vaccine subcommittee" "Phase 1B"
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:02:19 AM

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

I whole heartedly support moving all grocery store workers to Phase 1B. Clearly, they have been and continue to be in the category of essential front line workers during the whole duration of the pandemic. They risk their health everyday they are at work making it possible for the rest of us to have food on the table. It is unbelievable that they would be considered ineligible for Phase 1B and shifted to the roll out for the general public. **I am a senior citizen who is looking forward to getting a vaccination. However, if I have to wait another 2+ weeks or so to get mine so the dedicated women and men who serve me at curbside or in the store at Outpost, Sendiks, and Metro Market can be vaccinated sooner, I am willing to wait.**

Thank you,
Mary Harrison
Milwaukee, WI

From: [John irving](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee_phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:59:49 AM

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

Dear Vaccine Subcommittee,

I would like you to reconsider your decision regarding grocery workers. Please recommend that grocery are included on the Phase 1B list of vaccine recipients. I believe that grocery workers qualify as essential front-line workers and are highly susceptible to Corona virus exposure. I also agree with the CDC recommendation that included grocery store workers be included in Phase 1B.

Please include grocery store workers in Phase 1B vaccine recipients.

thank you,

John Irving

From: [Genevieve Best-Dickson](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Grocery store workers
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:49:48 AM

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

To Whom it May Concern:

Grocery Store workers should be offered immediate access to Covid vaccine. It is essential to be able to purchase food.

G. Best-Dickson
Bayside, WI

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Chris Vento Bente](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1 B input
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:47:57 AM

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

I am recommending that the 1 B group include:

- 65 and older
- teachers
- grocery workers

These groups are most at risk for the disease and adverse after effects. There are too many residual effects not to put these groups high on the list for vaccination. I suggest that schools be distribution areas for the vaccine since most schools are virtual and or libraries because they are in community neighborhoods. I would suggest getting retired nurses, and medical personnel who are trained in vaccinating to make the procedure smooth. There are also plenty of retired teachers and educators that could assist if needed. Using the National Guard is also a great option. There are also university students in nursing, premed, pharmacy etc that could be utilized to vaccinate.

Additionally, there could be vaccination mobiles that could be driven in high poverty areas to ensure equal access. There are plenty of us who are retired and would be most willing to assist once vaccinated.

Also, I would like to see a strategic plan of implementation so that the community has a clear picture of how, when and where the vaccinations will be available.

Thank you,
Chris Vento Bente



From: [Michael Miles](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:46:37 AM

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

Please see attached letter. I ask you to please please please give it your sincere consideration.

Sincerely,
Michael Miles
Madison, WI 53713

From: [Anita B. Fleisch](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Subject line: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B Grocery Employees
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:45:53 AM

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

I'm sure I couldn't have heard the news story correctly. Surely the Wisconsin health department, legislators, and those who make high level decisions would not possibly put mink farmers in front of grocery workers for the Covid vaccine! After some investigation, however, that seems to be true.

Really?!! Are you saying that mink farmers are more essential than grocery store workers?? Really?

Please try to use some common sense.

Who comes in contact with more people on a daily basis?

Who deals with goods that are essential to everyone everyday?

Which industry employs more people, thus affecting the Wisconsin economy in a more profound way?

Who affects what I spend on a weekly basis?

The answer to all those questions is obvious: Grocery store workers!

Please get your priorities straight. I understand the concern for the mink farmers and their livelihood, but please put it in perspective. Hundreds of thousands of people shop at grocery stores every day in Wisconsin. Every one of them needs to know they will be safe going into a store. The over 30,000 grocery store employees in Wisconsin need to know that they will be safe going to work every day.

Please do the right thing.

Anita Fleisch

From: [Tim Flasch](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:41:22 AM

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

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,
Tim Flasch

Sincerely ,
Tim Flasch



From: [Sandy Hodal](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee, Phase 1b
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:40:23 AM

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

I read with disbelief that grocery workers have not been included in the next phase of the vaccine. This must be changed. I am old enough that I would be included, but I do not feel necessary for myself or my husband to be in line ahead of essential workers, which those who keep my grocery shelves full and run the registers are and have been essential to my wellbeing. Please reconsider the decision and place these workers and anyone else that works to keep out economy working, along with all educators and any support staff in this next phase.

Sandy and Gary Hodal

From: [David Weber](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: COVID Phase 1b
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:39:50 AM

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

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. Since day one of the pandemic, our grocery store employees have continued to be at the forefront of serving the food needs of our communities. During the statewide shutdown in the spring, people could turn to their local grocery stores to ensure their food needs. We took great risks and made major modifications to how we operated to ensure the safety of our employees and the public. We ask the committee to consider this in its deliberations. We simply ask that in order to continue serving our communities' food needs that you follow CDC recommendations and prioritize grocery store workers in the 1b classification. You may not consider us to be so, but we are essential workers in our communities and deserve to be vaccinated in group 1b. Thank you for your consideration.

David Weber
Owner
St. Germain Sentry Foods

From: [Emberly Russell](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: ATTN: Vaccine Subcommittee - Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:36:53 AM

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

My name is Emberly Russell and it is crucial our food and retail workers are included in the next round of vaccinations. These are not simply essential workers, but Frontline workers! These are the folks making sure our food is safe and keeping it on grocery store shelves so we can feed our families! The fact that you want them to not be included is an egregious act. Some of our members are 65 years or older and continue to work everyday to support their families and make sure that you can feed yours. I suggest you remember that during your next meal.

Emberly Russell
Service Representative

From: [Mark Tschohl](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:36:31 AM

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

Dear Committee Member,

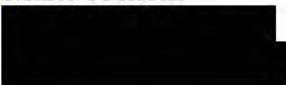
I write today as an employee of Sendik's Food Markets, a retail grocer serving the citizens of Wisconsin. I am asking you to consider including our industry in Wisconsin's tier 1B of the COVID-19 vaccination plan.

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,
Mark Tschohl



From: [Ron Jr.](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:36:17 AM

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

Hello,

I'm 53, male and a self employed work from home artist and am not in the grocery industry nor do I have any family members in the industry but to exclude grocery store workers from the vaccine in phase 1B is so intolerable to me It has caused me to write this, my first ever direct complaint to government. Quite simply food is essential and they are essential employees who have risked themselves and their loved ones for basically all of 2020.

While I understand it is our duty (and I'm sure some laws) to protect those who are incarcerated so they may pay for their crime the fact remains they could not play by societies rules. When the chips are down (and they most definitely are) they should not be prioritized over functioning, law abiding people who are contributing to the world while performing what can only be described as an ESSENTIAL duty.

I'm 53 and am currently in the group of 16 to 65 years olds for vaccination even though statistically I'm in a higher risk group than the general public who is 45 and younger. I'll gladly, and consider it my duty as a rational, logical American wait in line to be vaccinated while hospital workers, nursing homes, first responders, FOOD WORKERS etc. get taken care of but to put me behind criminals?

Think about the signal are you sending to the general public by putting criminals first. There are probably some laws about protecting those who are incarcerated but to have those supersede the general public during a pandemic is quite simply ludicrous and inexcusable to me. Maybe a bit dramatic here but you are clearly saying it's okay for me to die but we'll save a criminal in your place.

Thank you for your time.

Ron Luebke Jr.



From: [Erik Heisel](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Grocery workers need to be prioritized
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:35:30 AM

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

Grocery workers need to be included in the Phase 1b portion of the vaccination effort. Especially cashier's, who have taken the brunt of the risk dealing directly with customers, including disorderly anti-maskers.

We've been called essential and high risk since the start. It is exhausting to have to continue to fight to be recognized as people who provide an essential service to our communities while putting ourselves and loved ones at risk. We've gone to great lengths to keep our shopping spaces safe, now we ask for help.

Thank you!

From: [Peg McCarthy](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1b
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:31:43 AM

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I believe that the committee needs to reconsider it's decision not to include grocery store clerks in this phase. Hospitals have been able to include "administrative" staff who never see the public, other then grocery store clerks(!) so it seems that values about people in this state are truly compromised if grocery store staff are not included. Seems that a lot of doses could be at risk given the problems in the roll out, so please add these heroes to your list. I understand that the Trump administration has done a terrible job with getting the truth out about the amount of vaccine available much less getting to our state, but you do not need to feed into the false narrative. Thank you for taking my concerns into account, given that I am a senior with a health issue that will keep me at risk. We are all at risk until everyone gets the vaccine, and getting it to grocery store staff will protect me until I eventually get mine.

Margaret F. McCarthy

From: [Michelle Mork](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:31:28 AM

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

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.

Michelle Mork

Sincerely,
Michelle Mork



From: [Kari Wisinski](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee Phase 1b
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:31:21 AM

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

To the committee,

Thank you for the thoughtful and excellent work on this recommendation. As an oncologist, this is not my area of expertise and I recognize vaccine access is a challenge. However, I thought it would be worth mentioning to the committee about the possibility of also including three additional groups who are essential and have high risks of exposure. These groups are transportation (specifically school bus and public bus drivers), food processing plants, and consumer facing grocery store workers. Thank you for your consideration.

Kari

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Tom Ray](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee, Phase 1 B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:30:03 AM

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

To whom it may concern,

For the below reasons I feel that restaurant employees should be considered “public facing” and be eligible for Phase 1B of the vaccine distribution.

1. Restaurants are an important part of the food supply chain – feeding the public through carryout, delivery, and dine-in; keeping farmers, wholesalers, fishers, wineries, breweries, delivery drivers, and more, in business.
2. “Front of House” restaurant workers (managers, servers, hosts, bartenders, etc) have high level of interaction with the public and cannot control social distancing – they work in close proximity to unmasked diners for extended periods of time.
3. “Back of House” restaurant workers (managers, chefs, cooks, dishwashers) are not able to physically distance from each other while cooking in kitchens.
4. Restaurant workers cannot telework and have been working throughout the entire pandemic.
5. A large amount of restaurant workers are Latinx. People in the Latinx community continue to be disproportionately represented among both people testing positive and people hospitalized for COVID-19.
6. In addition to government capacity mandates and closures, restaurants have regularly shut down when there is an employee COVID case and other employees are exposed and must isolate. When this happens, restaurants don’t have enough workers to operate, and are forced to close for the isolation period, losing valuable sales, wasting product, and putting employees out of work for several days, or weeks at a time.
7. The restaurant industry has suffered and having workers vaccinated will make customers feel safer, help our industry rebound faster, and keep our restaurants open. Restaurant sales are down 50-70%, and it’s even worse in the winter when they can’t rely on outdoor dining. Restaurants are losing tens of thousands of dollars every month due to capacity restrictions and customer reluctance to dine in restaurants. Many restaurants are on the brink of closing and the vaccine can protect employees and be a lifeline for the industry.

Tom Ray
Managing Partner
[Food Fight Restaurant Group](#)™
(o) 608-246-2719
(c) 507-380-3816

From: [Bruce Rautmann](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:29:21 AM

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

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,

Sincerely,
Bruce Rautmann

[REDACTED]

From: [Cristina Miller](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee: phase 1B recommendations
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:29:09 AM

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

To whom it may concern:

Regarding who is under consideration for Phase 1B of the Covid-19 vaccine distribution, while risk of ill health effects is an important consideration, let's also keep in mind those who are at risk for spread. Many of the personnel that run grocery stores, essential retail sites, and serve food are not in position to effectively quarantine -nor have the funds to acquire so as they continue to work with poverty wages. They live in mixed generation households, rely on public transportation, and are more likely to be asymptomatic spreaders.

While much talk has been raised as to how many people in this category would even seek the vaccine, many of them have felt the stress and seen the effects of Covid first hand. It is important they are not forgotten in this discussion. At one point they were applauded as essential, but they wonder if they still are.

Thank you for your consideration.
Cristina Miller

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Brenda Hunt](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: when will grocery store pharmacists get the vaccine for themselves?
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:29:04 AM

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

From: [Brenda Hunt](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: pharmacist covid
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:25:28 AM

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

When will pharmacists in grocery stores be able to get the vaccine. They are on the front line all day with sick people.

From: [rebecca simson](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee/phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:23:54 AM

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

Consider opening up vaccinations to everyone who wants it. I have come to this conclusion after witnessing the behavior of fellow citizens over the past year.

Early in the pandemic the governor mandated that all citizens wear masks. I was wearing one even before this when even the CDC was saying it was not necessary. All one had to do was watch how other countries were responding to see that masks were effective in preventing transmission of the virus (and any virus). I was at the grocery store one day and observed two police cars in the parking lot. When I entered the store one of the officers was at the service desk and not wearing a mask, the other one was in the store and he also did not wear a mask. The local sheriff also said they would not enforce any mask mandate. Now they are able to receive the vaccine before other responsible citizens who wear/wore masks.

I do believe that those 65 and older should receive the vaccine immediately. Let's consider why the residents in nursing homes have such a high Covid death rate. The residents do not have visitors nor are allowed to leave the facility but yet the virus is rampant. Obviously it is due to the people who work there who are not following CDC guidelines outside of the workplace. Yet these workers will receive the vaccine immediately. Why are they rewarded for their dangerous behavior?

I am the caregiver for my 91 year old mother. I am the only person she has contact with and she has not left her home in the past 6 months. The 4 times she did leave home this year were for various doctor appointments and she was properly masked. I do all of my and her shopping online except for groceries. I go to the store when they open at 6 a.m. when there are very few people shopping. I wear an approved mask (and now have started wearing two), I sanitize my hands and carry hand sanitizer with me at all times, I have disposable Lysol wipes in the car at all times and disposable gloves if needed. I follow all safety protocols to protect myself and others yet I will not get the vaccine for some time.

Now I see that mink farmers will get the vaccine in the next tier. There are very few mink farmers in WI. Although mink have been found to be infected with covid does this warrant the farmers getting the vaccine? Again it is the workers who are bringing it into the facilities. (Mink farming is also horribly cruel.) How did you happen to only choose mink farmers? We know that gorillas, lions, dogs and cats have tested positive for Covid. If they tested all animals they would very likely find it has infected many other animals.

If you continue with your current plan add grocery workers to the list of those who should be vaccinated. That is one place where many people still go out in public. Food is a necessity! There are many elderly people who do not have computers, smartphones or the ability to order their groceries online to have delivered directly to them or have curbside pickup. More citizens are going to grocery stores than to health care facilities or probably any other retail

establishment.

Please rethink your guidelines and open vaccination to all citizens who want it.

Thank you .

From: [Pat Babler](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:22:10 AM

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

The addition of 65-70 years of age, food service and grocery employees should immediately be added to the 1b vaccination grouping.

Dissemination of plan implementation needs to be addressed in a much more expedient manner.

From: [lbvi1](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee phase1b
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:22:08 AM

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

Please include all grocery store employees and seniors over 70 in Phase1b.
The grocery store employees have been putting their lives on the line throughout this terrible experience and should be among the first to receive the vaccine.

Thank you,
Fred & Laurie Schmidt

Sent with [ProtonMail](#) Secure Email.

From: [Jenny Beck](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee and Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:19:42 AM

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

My sister and I both work at a grocery store. We feel it is unfair we are not considered essential workers. When COVID-19 started we were essential workers and we worked during the months when most businesses were closing. Now, the Prisoners are considered essential when they do not deal with the public!

This is a "slap in the face", when we worked during the months when customers were angry about wearing masks and having most places close because of COVID-19. We even have to serve the people that refuse to wear a mask because of Health Reasons.

We deal with a variety of people from young to elderly. Some customers do thank us for working during this trying time and they were happy when they heard that grocery store workers were considered essential and we would be getting the vaccine before the general public.

Please reconsider grocery workers essential as grocery stores stayed open while most places were closed and we deal with the public.

Thank you for your consideration.
Jennifer Beck

From: [Thomas Endejan](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee" and "Phase 1B"
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:19:25 AM

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

Dear Wisconsin Vaccine Subcommittee,
Please include meat processing workers, butchers, Bakery workers, restaurant and other food sector workers in Phase 1b of the vaccination roll-out.

Sincerely,

Thomas Endejan
Culinary Arts Instructor
Moraine Park Technical College
Website: morainepark.edu

tendejan@morainepark.edu
Phone: 920-924-3135
Fax: 920-907-6829

235 N. National Ave. Fond du Lac, WI 54936-1940

imagine what's next

From: [Carla Myers](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: FOOD BANKS: Public-facing essential workers
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:19:14 AM

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

Please include FOOD BANKS in your group of 1B: public facing essential workers; these people, mostly unpaid/volunteers are providing a public service. Just like medical workers, who are providing essential medical care, food bank workers are providing a necessary basic need - food. Both food and medical care sustain.

Thank you for your consideration,
Carla Myers



From: [Tricia Griffin](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Grocery store workers
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:16:54 AM

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

Grocery store workers should be considered essential workers for purposes of receiving the vaccine. They have kept the economy going and made it possible for those of us who isolate to do so.

The most salient reason is that they deal with public daily, many of whom attempt to skirt the rules about masking. Their exposure level is among the highest of all those who work with the public. They should not have to continually worry about their exposure to this virus.

Please include grocery workers on the list of essential workers for purposes of the COVID 19 vaccine.

Tricia J. Griffin

From: [William Schultz](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:13:40 AM

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

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. If you want to prioritize who should get the vaccinations you cannot forget the grocers. We have the most contact with people and are the most vulnerable to the virus. We do not have the PP gear the medical employees have received. We are doing our best to protect our employees and customers. Please re-consider including us in the next phase of vaccinations.

Sincerely,
William Schultz

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

From: [Jennifer Wilberg](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:12:39 AM

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

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,
Jennifer Wilberg



From: [william kuptz](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine for grocery workers.
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:12:19 AM

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

Good morning,
I don't understand how grocery workers are not going to get a vaccine shot in the next round!!!!Please add us to the list.We work in fear every day.We need to be protected from the virus.HELP US HELP YOU!!!!!!!

From: [Emily McRoberts](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee and Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:09:57 AM

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

Hello,

I am a healthcare worker who received my vaccine since I am in group 1A. I strongly urge you to add grocery store workers as part of 1B. These essential workers are at high risk and deserve to get their vaccine ASAP!

Thank you,

Emily McRoberts

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Lynn](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: COVID Vaccine group 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:06:44 AM

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

Please add grocery workers to this list now.

They are what stands between all of us having access to food and chaos/store break ins if the stores close.

They have close contact with folks from all over who abide and do not abide by COVID protocol.

Knowing people in this industry, it is very common to hear another one of their co-workers is out with COVID and prior to being diagnosed - who knows if they unknowingly infected other staff or shoppers!!

Thank you, Lynn

From: [Trygve Solberg](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:05:00 AM

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

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 just heard on national news that Wisconsin is one of the worst states for vaccine rollout.

Sincerely ,
Trygve Solberg



From: [Kipfer, Nathan \(GE Healthcare\)](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee and Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:01:11 AM

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

Good morning,

I believe it is most important to get the vaccine to the people who are actually dying of the disease, people over the ages of 65. I don't see the point in vaccinating a bunch of 20-40 year old's right now when that shot could go to someone who is more than 100 time more likely to die.

Phase 1b should be:

- Everyone over the age of 65
- Essential workers over the age of 50 (Teachers, police, grocery store workers, non EMS first responders)

If we really want to make a difference in the pandemic we have to stop giving the vaccine to people who are not at risk to having a severe outcome.

By the way I am 26 years old, so I am not writing this for any personal advantage.

Thank you,

Nate

From: dawnbutler68@gmail.com
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:59:02 AM

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

Vaccine Subcommittee,

I am a Grocery Store Director for the largest grocer in Wisconsin. At the beginning of the Pandemic, grocery workers were hailed as essential workers and heroes! We do not have the ability to work from home, we are on the front line every day. Our teams served and continue to serve our communities day in and day out. On average we have between 1700 to 3000 people go through the our checkout lanes each day. Our company has taken extraordinary precautions to keep our customers and associates safe while in our stores. Unfortunately, even with all those measures associates do get sick. It has been like playing Russian Roulette each day. Will that customer who is refusing to wear a mask going to infect someone or the person with symptoms that are ignored or the person who doesn't have symptoms going to be the one to spread it, or my favorite the person who wears the mask below their chin... We struggle every day to cover shifts of those who are sick or have been exposed. With the expectations that we are Fresh, Clean, and Friendly which I am proud to say we are. I beg that you reconsider removing grocery workers from the essential workers list...

Sincerely
Dawn Butler
Store Director
Pick N Save

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Steve Heise](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:58:27 AM

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

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 are truly essential workers with direct customer contact daily. They need your support to stay safe as they serve our communities...

Sincerely ,
Steve Heise



From: [Chris Beimborn](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee - Phase 1b
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:56:08 AM

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

To the vaccine subcommittee:

Please include grocery workers among people of high priority to vaccinate. They have been designated as essential workers for the duration of the pandemic and must face members of the public, including confronting those who do not comply with safety requirements of the businesses. All people need groceries and acquiring them has sometimes felt like one of the riskiest activities I must do. Some of these workers are isolating themselves from vulnerable loved ones in their homes. Those who work in the stores face the risk everyday and vaccinating them would extend protection to the people they serve and families of the workers. Please include them in group 1b.

Thank you,

Chris Beimborn
Milwaukee, WI

From: [Cheri Bourdo](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:55:51 AM

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

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 work DIRECTLY with the public and 6 feet distancing is not doable with coworkers and the public shoppers. We get all walks of life, some responsible to safe practices and ALOT irresponsible. I have not missed a day of work since my first day 1.5 years ago. I believe this shows how committed I am to my job and paying my bills! I fear this virus will jeopardize this.

Sincerely ,
Cheri Bourdo



From: [Bonnie Wenger](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine 1 b
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:54:00 AM

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

It appears many will not receive the vaccine until last spring or beyond yet many of us are under the age but have underlying conditions that should qualify much earlier being we are in our 60 plus age group with asthma, diabetes, rumatoid arthritis etc.

Both of us are in grocery stores etc for our employment.

[Sent from AT&T Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [Nathaniel Groth](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Grocery Workers
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:52:56 AM

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

Absolutely shocked and disappointed grocery workers have been excluded from phase 1 B. We've been working throughout this entire ordeal (I've put in 50 hour weeks regularly) and have a higher exposure rate than some healthcare workers. I'm lucky enough to have health insurance through my grocery employer but that is NOT THE INDUSTRY NORM. Prisoners and mink farmers first? You have messed up priorities. No wonder this country is burning to the ground. You should be ashamed, do us a favor and grow your own food and then see how "essential" we are.

Sent from my iPhone

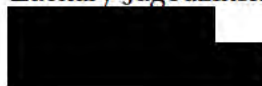
From: [Zachary Jagodzinski](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:52:32 AM

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

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask that as governor you take grocery store employees into strong consideration when discussing covid-19. When discussing vaccinations for essential workers to defend against covid-19 consider that grocery workers are essential to the system. Without grocery store workers the food system could very well collapse, we are essential!

Sincerely ,
Zachary Jagodzinski



From: [William Stump](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee - Phase1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:51:35 AM

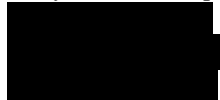
Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

We are in the above 70 years category and our disabled adult son lives with us. We are anxious to receive the vaccine and support allowing us and our son to be included in Phase 1B. We are urging the State of Wisconsin to step up efforts to vaccinate the citizenry of Wisconsin. According to the Wausau Daily Herald, Wisconsin lags far behind other states in the distribution of the vaccine. This is not acceptable.

Also, why are those incarcerated included in Phase 1B but the very essential grocery store workers are not? If this is the case, shame on Wisconsin.

Thank you,

William Stump
Mary Jensen Stump



From: [Doreen Wiemer](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee and Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:50:23 AM

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

Good Morning,

I would like to express my deep concern and extreme disappointment with grocery store workers being removed from the Phase 1B listing to receive the Covid vaccine. Yes, I have a personal connection, my husband is in the grocery retail business and has been his entire working life. But I am also asking for grocery store workers throughout the state of Wisconsin. I would like to remind you that these people - our retail family - have been on the front lines since this pandemic began. Day in and day out, working long hours to make sure everyone in this state had food on their table. While offering every option possible to do it safely for the public, with online ordering, drive up services and even delivery in some places. These workers come in contact with hundreds of different people within just a few days. Thus exposing them, more than any other business. I realize it is a tough decision who should get the vaccine first, but I'm asking you to please look at the impact the grocery business has in this state. Remember that they were all open during the "safer at home" order, because they are **ESSENTIAL WORKERS**. And should be treated as that now.

Please put ALL grocery store workers back on the Phase 1B list.

Doreen Wiemer

From: [Tanya Haessly](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee and Phase 1B in the message line
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:50:16 AM

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

Good morning,

I am writing to express my great desire for consideration for grocers and their staff to receive vaccinations during the 1B phase in Wisconsin. My family owns and operates a small town grocery store here in Wisconsin and have worked tirelessly to provide for our community. Not only my family, but the staff who work at our grocery store have worked throughout the COVID 19 pandemic without hesitation and without rest. Though those individuals have dealt with the same concern for themselves and their families as everyone else in the world, they have continued to show up, knowing that others are dependent on the food supply to continue to be in place. Our staff have been available for in person shopping and have had a great volume of curbside and deliveries as well which was a model we adapted to due to the COVID 19 pandemic. These adaptations, though seemingly simple, take a great deal of time, planning and coordination to continue to utilize.

Grocers and grocery store workers are ESSENTIAL in the truest form and they all deserve to be considered for the 1B phase!

Thank you,
Tanya Haessly

From: oniolapond@tds.net
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:45:04 AM

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

I understand there are many groups wanting to be next in line but when you are talking essential workers, you are doing grocery store workers an injustice.

It sounds like getting a group higher up the priority list is like everything else in government. No common sense, but how much lobbying power you have.

Are your memories so short? In March, when everything shut down, grocery stores were deemed essential. Do you realize how hard these people worked to keep the shelves stocked during the selfish hoarding that went on? Or how many comments they had to endure when customers were restricted on amounts allowed to purchase or product wasn't available?

Shame on you for deeming them essential then and tossing them into the pool now with the rest of the common folk who won't be vaccinated until spring or summer.

Every time you wipe your butts, ask yourself if that toilet paper is really essential and then remember where you got that toilet paper from.

Sandy Bostwick
Iola, WI

From: [Maria migdal](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: phase 1b
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:43:27 AM

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

PLEASE INCLUDE GROCERY STORE WORKERS IN PHASE 1B COVID IMMUNIZATION.

My husband and I are over 65 and have had contact with these workers on a weekly basis since the beginning of the Covid lockdown. They are essential workers and have gone the extra mile to keep our groceries stores open and running.

Maria Migdal



From: [Christy Timm](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:41:38 AM

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

DHSSD:

I implore you to consider including a larger range of people in the next round of vaccines. My mother who is 67 is still working at a school, my best friend has diabetes and is working at a grocery store, my father in law has high blood pressure and is working as an electrician in people's homes--we need to include broader criteria to receive the vaccine or we will loose more good people. Please consider the people of Wisconsin. Many of us are desperate for a vaccine that could help them, help others safely.

Thank you,
Christy

From: [Kevin Grace](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:40:04 AM

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

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've been on the front line for almost a year -- it's time for us.

Thank you.

Sincerely ,
Kevin Grace



From: [Terry Johnston](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:37:04 AM

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

I would like to see grocery store workers added to essential front line workers. As a 60 year old cashier at a grocery store I have been working out in the public during the whole pandemic. My co-workers and I had to contend with customers not complying with mask wearing and social distancing. We have put ourselves in harms way everyday to make sure the community was able to get their food supply.

Thank you,
Terry Johnston
Sent from my iPad

From: [Patricia Ryan](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: VACCINE SUBCOMMITTEE PHASE1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:34:43 AM

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

I support the inclusion of grocery workers in Phase 1B of the state's plan for vaccination.

I am a 77 y.o., healthy female who would delay a vaccination for a grocery store worker if that were possible. I can stay home and isolated longer to allow the essential grocery store workers to work safely. With the prediction of a more highly transmissible virus arriving by March, not only the workers but also the customers are at even higher risk. Workers in the grocery industry — clerks, stockers, butchers, meatpackers, distributors and delivery people, to name only a few — were so important in keeping us supplied with food and essential supplies during the darkest hours of the pandemic. They remain so today.

I understand the need for vaccination in the prisons and how outbreaks there further tax the health care system but I am concerned that this could rile some up. The virus has been so politicized that I fear this will add fuel to an already blazing fire. Is it possible that vaccinating all prison staff in combination with as frequent as possible testing of prisoners would contain outbreaks? If so, grocery workers could be vaccinated before prisoners. It will require careful explanation and extraordinary messaging for much of the public to understand placing prisoners ahead of grocery store workers in the vaccination line.

Before dropping 1B participation to age 65, why not keep it at 70 and allow essential grocery workers an earlier place in line? I say all this knowing that you cannot avoid making some displeased. Your task is beyond challenging and I wish you luck and success.

Patricia Ryan



Sent from my iPad

From: [Robert Porth](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee phase 1b
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:31:14 AM

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

Grocery workers should be included as essential before prisoners. Grocery workers come into contact with more people than almost any other occupation.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Rebecca Bianco](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:31:07 AM

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

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 are likely exposed every day and need your help.

Sincerely ,
Rebecca Bianco



From: [Neil Brauner](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee phase 1b
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:28:20 AM

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

Subcommittee members,

I am a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA) and vaccinated in phase 1a. I would like to call your attention to what I believe is a mistake in the phase 1b grouping. In my opinion both speaking as a member of the community and as a health care provider I believe that leaving grocery store employees out of phase 1b is not the correct decision. Throughout the pandemic DHS has asked wisconsinites to “follow the science” and the recommendations of the CDC. While vaccine rollout is incredibly complex, this decision by the subcommittee follows neither the CDC guidance or the science. The science tells us that the more people you are exposed to, the higher risk of contracting COVID 19. Grocery store employees are exposed to far more people in the course of their jobs then almost any other essential worker. Also, there are few workers who can say they are more essential than the people who work in stores that provide food for everyone. Without these workers we would quite literally not have survived this pandemic. To say now that they should not be vaccinated in group 1b is not the right decision and not in line with recommendations from the CDC and I urge you to reconsider.

Sincerely,
Neil Brauner



From: [Tim Multerer](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee - Phase 1B: Dairy production
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:27:17 AM

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Relating to the dairy production industry, inclusive of cheese manufacturing

1. The impact the pandemic has had on the sector: Increases in demand for dairy at grocery stores and take out have caused shortages of dairy products due to stresses put on shifting production specific to in home consumption.

- 2) The specific impact the pandemic has had on businesses or personnel: Covid-19 instances in dairy production workers severely puts these workers at very high risk thus causing severe depletion of a major source of the nations food supply.

Tim Multerer

From: [Terri Fagan](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:21:24 AM

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Gentlemen and Ladies

I think its very important for Grocery store workers to be included in the 1B group to receive vaccinations. These people have been frontline workers to the community since the beginning of the epidemic; and by doing their jobs, they have no choice but to be vulnerable to virus.

I am a teacher, and therefore will already be on the 1B list. My school has been open in full since Fall, and, honestly I feel so vulnerable everyday going to work, even though we take the CDC's precautions. I'm very thankful that I will be able to receive the vaccine soon and I think grocery store workers should be allowed to feel that their contribution to the community is valued. By allowing them the opportunity to be on a priority list to receive the vaccine, we can give them that reassurance and hope.

Thank you.
Terri Fagan

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: [Andrea Minkin](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B Grocery Employees
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:19:12 AM

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

I am a resident in Bayside, Wisconsin, and would like to voice my opinion that grocery store workers should be in the Phase 1B to receive the vaccine if they choose. I do not have any family members that are in this group, but feel they are entitled to this privilege since we have utilized them the most during this pandemic time, along with healthcare professionals.

Thank you -
Andrea Minkin



Sent from my iPhone

From: [Helen Beutler](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:17:26 AM

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

To whom it may concern,

I am a grocery store worker, and hearing that those of us who have these jobs are not going to be included in Vaccine Phase 1B was incredibly disheartening. We have been working with the public since the pandemic started. We are exposed to hundreds of people every day, some of whom refuse to wear masks properly, and sometimes become aggressive when we ask them to comply. As the pandemic wears on, many shoppers have become less vigilant about distancing and other safety measures. It is exhausting and demoralizing to come to work every day and feel like some of those who come into the store aren't concerned with our safety. Those of us who work at grocery stores are essential workers, and we deserve to be vaccinated in the next round so that we can protect ourselves, as well as customers. I ask you to please reconsider the decision not to include us in Phase 1B, and show that grocery store workers are valued just as much as educators, first responders, and others who are in this category. Thank you for your consideration of this very important issue.

Sincerely,
Helen Beutler

From: [Amy Draper](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Cc: [laydebug: charter.net](#)
Subject: VACCINE FOR SUBCOMMITTEE REGARDING PHASE 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:17:12 AM

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

Subcommittee,

I work at Williamson Street Grocery Cooperative and I am imploring you to INCLUDE GROCERY STORE EMPLOYEES. We face hundreds of people on a daily basis and THEY TO US! We are proudly one of the safest places to come into, but not all grocery stores are as such. We are grateful to have steady employment, but every day we face that risk and fear of contracting the virus, as well as those who come into our stores. We ARE ESSENTIAL and this is a fact. People need to eat and buy food. We CANNOT NOT be here!

Please afford us the respect and consideration we deserve, by keeping us on the list of Phase 1B recipients. We care about our community, our livelihood, and we should be put in a position of safety for ourselves and the many people exposed as soon as possible.

Thank you for your serious consideration.

Amy Draper

From: [Tracy Easterday](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B Grocery Employees
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:16:04 AM

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

Good morning,

It's with great dismay that I read in today's 'Journal Sentinel' that our legislators deem grocery employees to Not be essential. I for one totally disagree. And, it is contrary to CDC guidelines!

These folks must be included in the "Essential line-up for vaccinations.

They have been classified as uniquely essential throughout every phase of the pandemic and therefore required to continue reporting to work while the rest of us have been encouraged to work from home.

Now that vaccines are available, how can they suddenly no longer be essential?

Sincerely,

Tracy Easterday

Fox Point, WI

From: lars@mwt.net
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Thoughts about 1B recommendations
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:11:29 AM

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

To the Committee,

Hello. We are dairy farmers. We have lived in fear and been so careful during the whole pandemic because we don't know what we would do if we contracted the disease.

We can't call in sick to our work--we are the only ones to do the work. No one else knows "what" to do and no one "wants" to do the work. We are responsible to about 300 animals that have to be fed, watered, cleaned and some of them milked every day. We've heard the stories of people being so exhausted from Covid that they can't feed their dog and it has lasted a long time for some.

Being Wisconsinites yourself, we think you understand.

Please include dairy farmers in the 1B list of people to get the vaccine. It doesn't have to be ALL farmers, ask people to bring a milk check or something to prove they are dairy farmers.

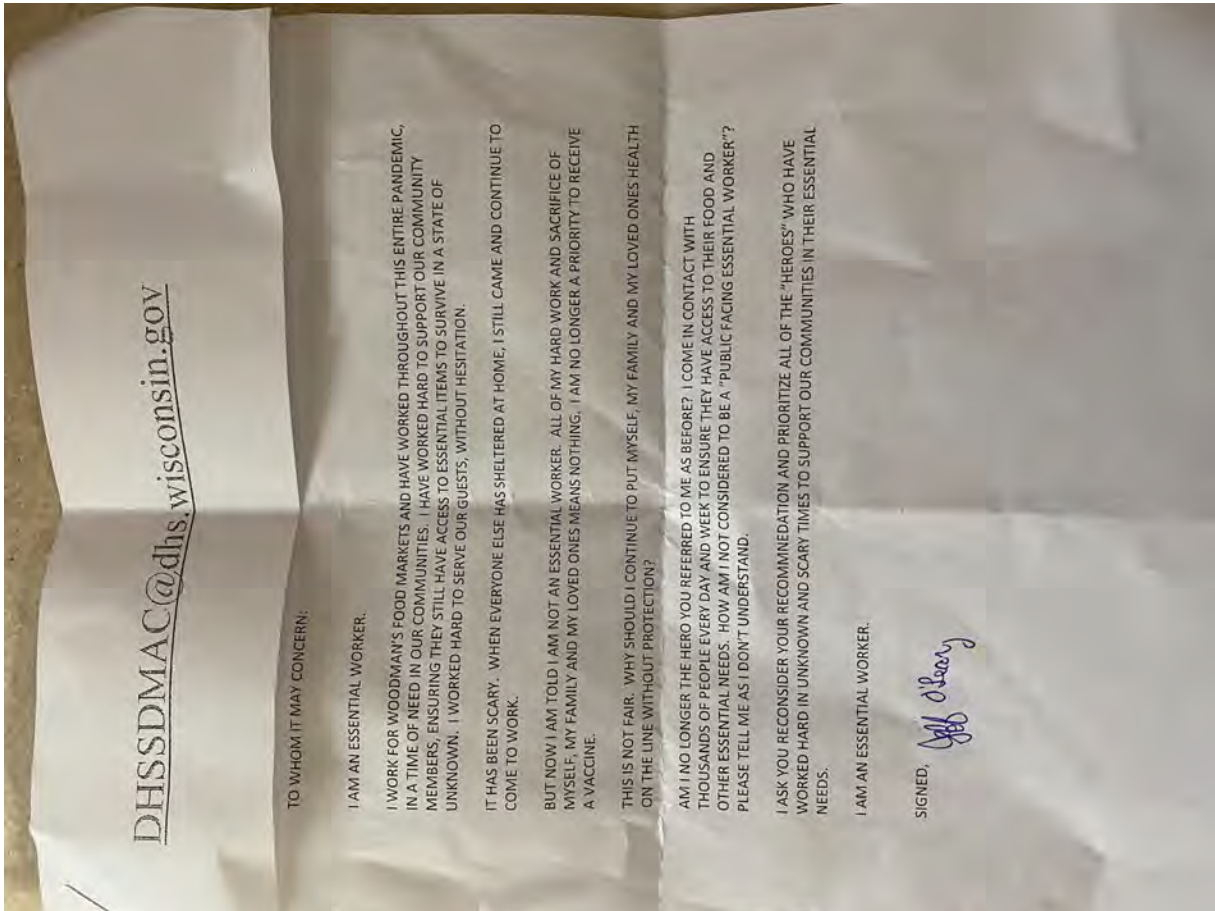
Thank you, Dennis, Maureen, and Andrew Amundson

Norsk Jerseys Westby, Wisconsin

From: [Bobbie O'leary](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:09:26 AM

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

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)



From: [Jodie Villegas](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Grocery workers
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:08:37 AM

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

Good morning,

Please include grocery employees in the 1B group of Covid vaccines, they are essential workers. This group of employees has been serving our communities since the shutdown started in Mid-March and assisting us in getting through this pandemic.

Thank you,

Jodie Villegas
Concerned Citizen



From: [Colleen Jones](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee - Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:08:06 AM

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

Good morning,

After seeing information on the news this morning regarding the vaccine rollout of Phase 1B, I was disappointed to see that grocery store workers were not included in that list. Our grocery store workers have dealt with frazzled customers and low inventory on essential items, while doing their jobs well in dealing with the general public. They don't know with whom they are coming into contact, sick or healthy. They work hard and should be included in the Phase 1B rollout, especially over teachers who are still working from home with no planned return to school. I know not all teachers fall into this group, as my nieces have had face-to-face learning all school year. To say that grocery store workers are not essential is ridiculous. It is the one place that has been constant during this entire pandemic. These workers deserve more than just being thrown in with the general population as the vaccine continues to roll out.

Thank you for your consideration.

Colleen Jones

Oconomowoc, WI

From: [Rob Metzinger](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine - 1b category - essential workers
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:00:41 AM

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

I work for a grocery retailer where our staff are on the floor in front of and exposed to the general public for most if not their entire working shift. Food is considered essential and we need employees on the floor in front of the public to be able to distribute that food to the public.

I would ask that you please consider grocery store workers in the next phase – 1b of the vaccine distribution.

Thank you for your consideration,

Robert Metzinger
HR Director
Outpost Natural Foods
“An Amazing Place To Work”

From: [Jacob Tischer](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 7:59:44 AM

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

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're in frontlines daily and interact with more people than most industries.

Sincerely ,
Jacob Tischer



From: [Kim Roberson](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Request for reconsideration
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 7:59:31 AM

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

Good Morning Vaccine Subcommittee Members,

I write today as a loved one of someone who works in the grocery industry.

I ask that there be reconsideration and that you include the food supply industry in tier 1B of the COVID-19 vaccination plan. CDC guidance on the COVID-19 vaccine distribution was released even before the announcement of a vaccine, and had the food supply industry listed as part of tier 1B, as essential public facing workers.

I am disheartened to hear the committee is not following this guidance and is instead recommending the food supply industry should receive the vaccine as part of tier 1C.

All healthcare workers, public safety workers and child care center workers are factored in tier 1A and 1B. Grocery workers and food supply essential workers were also mentioned in the same breath as these industries since early March of 2020 and called "Heroes". Yet, my loved one now doesn't have the same hope these other front-line heroes are getting.

Please reconsider your revised plan for Tier 1B to include grocery workers and others critical in the food supply.

Food is essential to the survival for all mankind, regardless of age. Employees in the grocery industry have been working tirelessly to ensure people have the food and supplies they need available to them in order to follow the "Shelter in Place" and "Safer at Home" orders set forth by the state of Wisconsin. My loved one and their co-workers need to remain healthy. Without them we will have a much larger issue on our hands in keeping food available to all Wisconsin residents.

To watch my loved one leave the house for 10 months and put themselves at risk out in the public to ensure all of us have food on the table has been so hard. For them to have this glimmer of hope for a timely vaccine ripped out of their hands is a shame. Please reconsider.

Sincerely,

Kim Roberson

From: [Christina Zahn](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine 1B Grocery Workers
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 7:59:28 AM

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

Dear DHSS,

Initially, 1B has been listed to include Grocery Workers per the CDC. Are you aware of the danger you continue to put these vulnerable individuals at higher risk. Many shoppers continue to disregard distancing and mask mandates.

My spouse works as a meat clerk in a local (national chain) grocery store, where they have become somewhat lacking in enforcement of mask ordinances. He mentions this daily that there's at a minimum of one violator. He is also over 70.

These workers do need to be part of 1B as well as family members, but I will be patient and wait my turn. Hopefully, most of the kinks will be worked out by then.

On angels' wings,
Christina Zahn
New Berlin, WI
VC Urbach/Lipow-Kut/Furmanovka
President SE WI Chapter AHSGR

From: [Julie Knoblock](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: "Vaccine Subcommittee" and "Phase 1B"
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 7:57:56 AM

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Good Morning,

Please vaccinate the Grocery Store Employees before the Prisoners in the State of Wisconsin.

I would like to include my comments in the decisions you are making regarding the Phase 1B distribution of the COVID vaccines. I believe the grocery store employees should be included in the Phase 1B vaccinations that will be administered next. For the last year, they have been considered essential and have risked their health for all of us to continue to get our groceries and now you say they are not essential enough to get the vaccination before the general population. I understand you only have so many vaccines, but I think these dedicated employees should be vaccinated now and specifically before the prison population. Maybe you could vaccinate the prison staff, but not the prisoners. The grocery store employees come in contact with all of us on a regular basis. The prisoners do not and they are prisoners so they shouldn't get special treatment over everyone else in our state.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Julie Knoblock
Hartford WI

From: [doug.plantz](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee - Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 7:57:46 AM

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

Please include Grocery Store workers in Phase 1B.

--

Thank you,

Doug

From: [JAYMIE NELSON](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 7:56:40 AM

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

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 Industry workers have continued to work everyday since the pandemic started, we continue to operate and function with the public, putting all of our workers in harms way on a daily basis. Grocery workers were considered essential and continue to fulfill their obligations. We ask that you consider giving the Grocery Industry the same courtesy and give us the vaccination during the next round..

Sincerely ,
JAYMIE NELSON



From: [Joseph Hegge](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1b COVID-19 vaccine public comment
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 7:56:29 AM

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

As a grocery store worker I'm very disappointed that we are not included in phase 1b. Please reconsider your choice. The CDC recommends it.

Regards,

Joe

From: [Kyra Arellano](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Reconsider revised plan Tier 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 7:56:23 AM
Importance: High

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

Dear Vaccine Subcommittee Members,

I write today as an employee of Certco, Inc. We are a wholesale grocery distributor who service independent grocery stores in Wisconsin, along with other states in the upper Midwest. We are owned by the grocery stores that we service.

I ask that there be reconsideration and you include our industry in tier 1B in the COVID-19 vaccination plan. CDC guidance on the COVID-19 vaccine distribution was released even before the announcement of a vaccine, and had our industry listed as part of tier 1B, as essential public facing workers.

I am disheartened to hear the committee is not following this guidance and is instead recommending our industry should receive the vaccine as part of tier 1C.

All healthcare workers, public safety workers and child care center workers are factored in tier 1A and 1B. Grocery workers and food supply essential workers were also mentioned in the same breath as these industries since early March of 2020 and called "Heroes". Yet, we are now left without the benefit of hope that these same individuals are getting.

Please reconsider your revised plan for Tier 1B to include our industry.

Moving the age tier down to include individuals above age 70, instead of 75 years of age, is protecting a new group that has been kept safe by the State orders to stay home, and they have been fed due to us and the stores we service.

Food is essential to the survival for all mankind, regardless of age. My coworkers and I have been working tirelessly to ensure people have the food and supplies they need available to them in order to follow the "Shelter in Place" and "Safer at Home" orders set forth by the state of Wisconsin. Without me and my co-workers remaining healthy and the grocery store workers staying healthy, we will have a much larger issue on our hands in keeping the food available to all Wisconsin residents.

To be called heroes for 10 months and have this glimmer of hope for a vaccine ripped out of our hands is a shame. Please reconsider.

Sincerely,

Kyra Arellano

From: [lady36hawk](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee, Phase 1B: Postal workers, Grocery workers
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 7:55:57 AM

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

Vaccine Subcommittee,

Please consider adding United States Postal workers to Phase 1b. Postal workers are essential to moving essential communications and goods across the state and nation 365 days a year. The effects of covid 19 impact the ability to give consistent service to the state and our country. The Postal Service delivers to every address every day and is an essential lifeline for many people in the state.

I ask that you also consider grocery workers. They are essential to keeping the people of Wisconsin and the nation supplied with food and the essential items needed to keep the population safe.

Both of these groups are included in other State's phase 1b groups and the CDC's suggested guidelines for vaccine rollout.

I believe these 2 groups should be included in phase 1b before prisoners and migrant farmers. Postal workers and grocery workers have a bigger impact on the safety of the state as a whole and have been working hard to keep the economy and everyday life humming along throughout this whole pandemic and should not be pushed to a later phase.

In addition, I do not understand why people 80+ years old, with or without underlying health concerns, have not been included in phase 1a.

I appreciate your consideration.

Keri Hanson
Madison, WI

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy Tablet

From: [Clare Ott](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 7:55:47 AM

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

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,
Clare Ott



From: [Bert Sartori](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 7:55:15 AM
Attachments: image001.png
image002.png
image003.png

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I am writing to request that dairy production be considered an essential service to keep America's food supply chain functioning. We have been doing everything to try to keep our team member's safe, but the vaccine would be the most effective option to continue providing food to our state and keep our team safe.

Thanks for your efforts on this important health issue.

Bert Sartori
President
C: 303.818.1941

107 N. Pleasant View Road
Plymouth, WI 53073
www.sartoricheese.com



From: [Gail Bailey](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Rollout
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 7:51:15 AM

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

Dear DHS:

I am a resident of Jefferson, Wisconsin. I am 65 years old.

I very strongly believe the grocery workers need to be in the next group of those vaccinated and definitely before prisoners. These workers have worked so utterly hard these past ten months. They are unsung heroes of this pandemic.

I know many of them personally. They have worked 50 to 60 hour weeks to keep us fed. They have put up with a lot of unruly customers. Yet, they continue to serve us.

If prisoners get this vaccine before law abiding citizens, there may be even more unrest in our society which we do not need.

I'm 65 and pray I'm in the next group. I need to be vaccinated because I have 3 risk factors and I also babysit my grandson while my son serves in the National Guard, works, and my daughter in law works in a grocery store.

Please support our grocery workers and those over 65 in this next phase.

Gail f Bailey



Sent from my iPhone

From: [Cheri Moldenhauer](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee - phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 7:46:40 AM

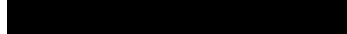
Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

I ask that you follow CDC guidelines and include grocery workers in phase 1B. These individuals have been serving a critical function EVERY day during this pandemic and have come in contact with hundreds of people each week which makes contact tracing extremely challenging vs. some other professions where you are dealing w/ a specific group each day (for example teaching or childcare).

I continue to hear of individuals that have no face to face contact as part of their jobs (working from home for a hospital) receiving a vaccine. How can we in good conscious prioritize those individuals above those that don't have the option of working from home and yet are providing such a key function to our state.

Thank you for your consideration.

Cheri Moldenhauer



Oconomowoc, WI

From: [Monica Ann Prochaska](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee- Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 7:40:59 AM

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

Grocery store workers have been super important through the pandemic! To keep them healthy and keeping us fed, they should receive vaccines ASAP.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Anthony Bushberger](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 7:40:12 AM

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

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,
Anthony Bushberger



From: [D. Neustadter](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee - Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 7:32:03 AM

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

Hello: After reading the current recommendations for phase 1B, I would like to ask that you also consider essential food workers. While I firmly believe everyone on the current recommendations list belongs there, my daughter works in a grocery store and I feel she and her coworkers should also be entitled to vaccinations in this upcoming phase. As a parent, I stress about her bringing covid home - it is unbelievable the number of customers she encounters on a daily basis who still fight mask wearing and social distancing.

I understand her time for a vaccine will come, but I encourage you to strongly consider allowing essential food workers to be included in phase 1B.

Thank you for your time.

Donna Neustadter
Cottage Grove

From: [Kari Mitchell](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccination Sub-Committee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 7:31:40 AM

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

Hello,

I was reading an article in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel and was shocked to learn that grocery store workers may not be included in Phase 1b of the vaccine. What is even more troubling is non-public facing health care workers and milk farmers are being considered before grocery workers. Since March, grocery store workers have been providing a public facing essential service to the health of the rest of the population. It has been extremely stressful for grocery store workers to handle the risks of the pandemic and the push back of non-mask wearing shoppers.

Please reconsider this group as ESSENTIAL and get them into Phase 1B of vaccinations. Give them the credit they deserve for the life sustaining services they have provided during this pandemic.

Kari Mitchell

Kari Mitchell
director of organizational & leadership development
Outpost Natural Foods
3200 S 3rd Street
Milwaukee, WI 53207
414-431-3377 x120

From: [Tom VanRiper](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Covid next phase plan
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 7:31:37 AM

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

Do not put the tax draining prisoners in front of grocery workers. Stop overthinking this process and do what's best for the public, not your government agenda.

Sent from my iPad

From: janetrheck@gmail.com
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: PHASE 1 B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 7:30:52 AM

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

Vaccines to food industry and grocery workers are desperately needed in order to keep our citizens safe, their families safe and those they have daily contact with. It is a civic responsibility to get the economy moving forward. These essential workers need to be able to support their families and the communities needs. In moving forward to open this economy up, these workers should be next in line for the vaccine. They have done what the state has asked by compliance of masks, following health department protocol and so forth. They have done what was asked of them. Now they ask you to approve their vaccines!

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [Ardyth Bergstrom](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1B vaccine
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 7:27:49 AM

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

Please include grocery store employees in your Phase1B vaccine roll out. They encounter hundreds of people daily. They are a life line to our food supply. Protect them!!!

Ardyth Bergstrom
Neenah, WI

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Jonathan Gapen](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Essential Workers in Phase 1b
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 7:26:19 AM

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

Please include grocery and other essential retail workers in phase 1b the COVID-19 vaccine roll-out, as per CDC recommendations. We work in close proximity to hundreds of people for hours upon hours a day. We do not have the option of working from home, nor do we have the option of shutting our stores down. Our communities must be supplied with food, and so we have been putting ourselves at risk every day of the pandemic so far to perform this absolutely essential function.

It felt like a punch in the gut when the news media reported that we were not included in the draft phase 1b plan. It came out in the same week that the new, more-virulent B.1.1.7 strain arrived in Wisconsin. Our public health authorities have failed to devise a plan for better PPE than the stop-gap cloth face masks that we have been wearing, and so we wonder how the new strain will spread without better protection. My co-workers and I feel angry and betrayed, especially with the inclusion of non-frontline medical workers. Although their jobs are important to the functioning of the healthcare system, I have seen a number of social media posts from confused hospital IT staff who wonder why they are included, given that they mostly work from home.

I understand that, as per the CDC recommendations, the priority with phase 1b is to vaccinate those people at high risk of complications, and *in high-contact roles* who may spread the virus. If grocery and essential retail workers do not fit that criteria, then really, who does? (Putting aside that a number of my co-workers, or members of their households, are also at high-risk for COVID-19 complications. We don't have the level of economic security needed to stay home, and there is no social safety-net. We have no choice but to work.)

Please follow the federal recommendations, and common sense, include high-risk frontline grocery and essential retail workers in the priority group for vaccination.

--
Jonathan Gapen

From: [Stili Klikizos](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: phase 1b
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 7:25:05 AM

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

As a voter and a concerned citizen, I would be interested to know how the COVID vaccine roll-out phases for our state were designed. I find the categories, as they stand today, extremely baffling and troubling.


Grocery store workers should have been included in phase 1a. They keep us all fed and alive. **Their health and contingent contacts could be the reason our numbers here in Wisconsin are so high.** Has that been considered?

Teachers should have been in phase 1a. The fact they schools are closed affects not only the present population in a myriad of ways, but their future as well (in turn, affecting us all). While it's very late to remedy that now, I should hope that teachers are prioritized and vaccinated as soon as possible.

That mink farmers preceded these two crucial and essential groups follows no logic in my opinion.

Therefore, GROCERY STORE WORKERS need to be included in group 1b and vaccinated as soon as possible.

Thank you

Stili Klikizos


From: [Martin Tyksinski](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Grocery store workers and delivery personnel (mail, fed ex, amazon, UPS, DHL)
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 7:21:22 AM
Attachments: image001.png

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

Grocery workers and delivery personnel should be in the next priority group for vaccines. Please consider that these employees are not only at high risk but also from the demographics in our state representing minority populations and poorly served by our health care system.



Martin Tyksinski
VP, Commercial Law
1201 S. 2nd Street
Milwaukee, WI
53149
Tel 414-382-1034
Cell 414-915-4371

From: [Mary Buser](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee- Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 7:18:04 AM

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

Good morning,

My local news tells me you are now accepting recommendations on Phase 1B COVID vaccinations.

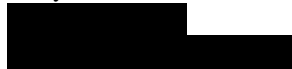
My recommendation is this:

Our grocery store workers have been on the frontline for a year now, and we would not have so easily survived without their work.

So please do include them in the Phase 1B vaccinations. They have been essential workers, and I hope you appreciate the importance of keeping them healthy.

Thank you.

Mary Buser



From: [Allison Ripley](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 7:14:31 AM

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

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 with this company for almost 5 years, and these have been some of the most difficult times ever. Workers like us should absolutely be part of this group. We are around people for 8 hours a day 5-7 days a week, how do we not get our spot? We are in small offices with two or more people as well. We have had several upon several positive tests within our company (11 stores total) Please re-consider this.

Thank you for your time.

Allison Ripley

Sincerely ,
Allison Ripley



From: [Sarah Kasuboski](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1B vaccine subcommittee recommendation
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 7:11:23 AM

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

Good day,

Thank you for reading this. I would urge you to consider including grocery store workers and others that were considered essential workers since the beginning of the covid outbreak for the 1B vaccine release. Many of those people have risked a lot to continue supplying food to the general public.

I do not and would not qualify for this release but I do think it would be fair to give them the option.

Thank you,
Sarah Kasuboski
WI resident

--

Thanks!

Sarah Kasuboski

From: [Margaret Virtue](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 7:11:17 AM

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To Whom I Hope It Concerns:

Just a quick note of my opinion on this next round of vaccines before I get to go to the first of my two "essential" jobs. (Delivery driver by day, grocery stocker nights and weekends)

As a grocery store stocker who also happens to be turning 55 this year and works with another who is going to be turning 65, I would like you to please consider adding us to the group for Phase 1B.

There are no plexiglass dividers out on the grocery store floor. We're left to our own to try and balance getting product on the shelves quickly while maintaining social distance. Working an 8-hour shift puts us in contact with more exposure risks than I can fathom. I choose not to focus on the risks. I need the money.

Thank you for your time and all your efforts,

Sincerely,

Margaret Virtue

Sent from [Outlook](#)

From: [Cheryl Merker](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee - Phase 1B - Include Grocery Employees
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 7:08:22 AM

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

As a customer of both large and **especially small grocery** stores in Greendale and West Allis, Wisconsin, I urge you to follow CDC recommendations and include Wisconsin's grocery store workers in Phase 1B of the COV D-19 vaccination plan.

I know for a fact that workers in a small grocery store such as the Parthenon European Market, 8415 W. Greenfield Avenue, West Allis, WI, 53214, have all been working HARD for months to keep the store stocked and open to serve customers. Keeping the shelves full and the store clean is reassuring to us the customers. I am sure the number of customers has increased as getting out to shop is essential for many reasons other than the need to eat.

Please help them do their job by providing them with the safety of the vaccine as soon as possible. And, unlike white collar workers, many grocery store employees don't receive sick pay. It is vital that all these employees stay healthy to continue serving the public.

They were serving the public when most of us were staying safe at home.

Please, follow CDC guidelines and include grocery store workers in Phase 1B of the COV D-19 vaccination plan.

Thank you,

Cheryl Merker

[Redacted]

Cheryl Merker

[Redacted]

From: [Elizabeth Mancosky](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee, phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 7:05:19 AM

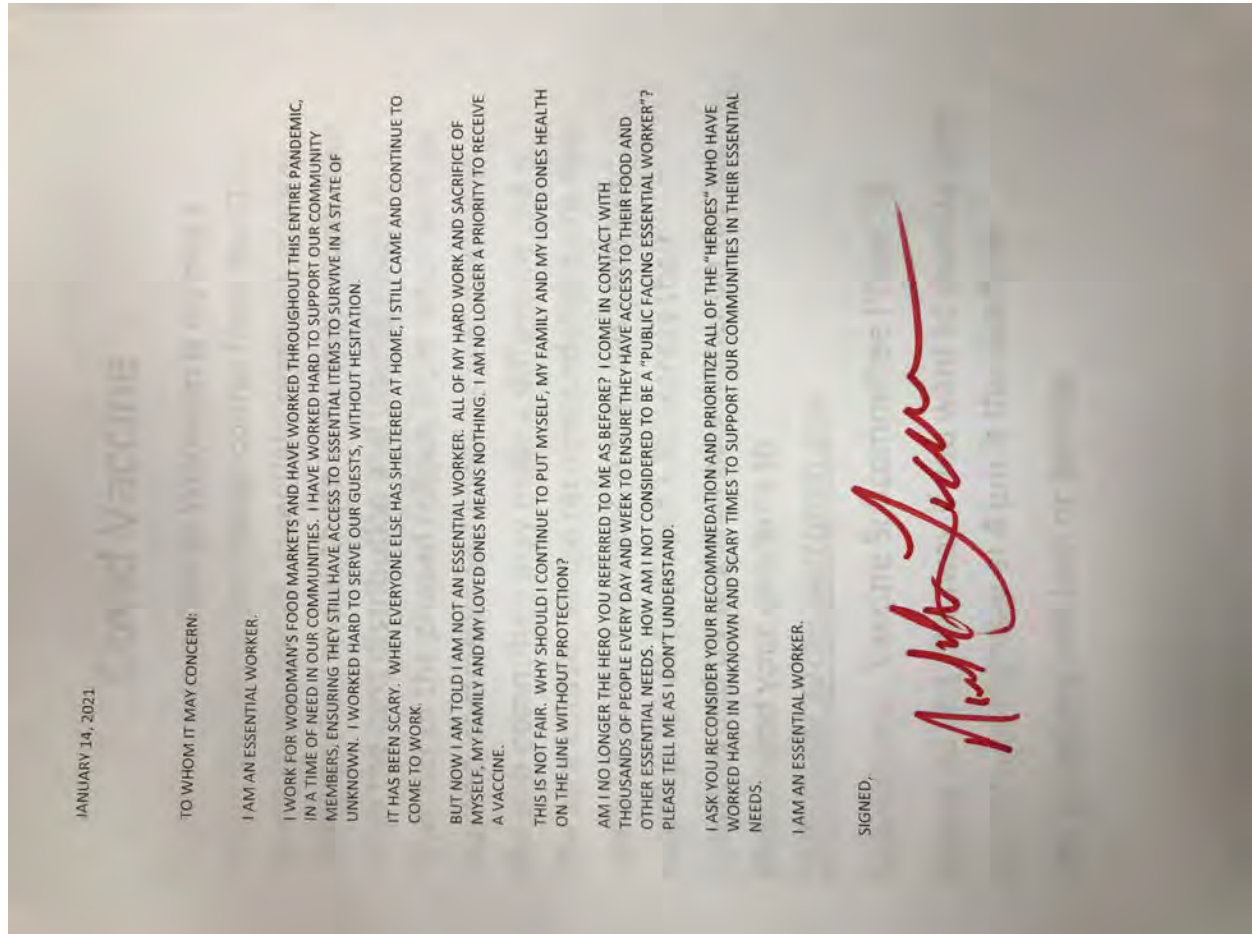
Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

To whom it may concern,

I'm shocked and truly disappointed that grocery store workers are deemed less important than mink farmers and are not scheduled to be in the next group. They are in constant contact with the public who I have observed are not always in compliance with socially distancing or correct mask wearing. This is a safety issue for both the employees and customers. Is this because you feel that minimum wage people are expendable? Please reconsider this decision to keep all of us you like to eat, safer.

Elizabeth Mancosky

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



Sent from my iPhone

From: [Gail Schumann](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Group 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 7:05:09 AM

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

Please include grocery workers in this group. They are exposed to many people every day and have kept us safe with curbside pickup-ups. Many have underlying conditions and live in multigenerational households. We are 70 years old and want them go before us.

Thanks for your consideration,
Gail Schumann

From: [School](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: COVID-19 and our grocers
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 7:05:05 AM

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

To whom it may concern:

We must, absolutely must include the grocery store employees on this 1B round of vaccinations!!! They were considered essential in the midst of the pandemic beginnings. They had reworked their stores to remain open to serve communities, have provided curbside pick up and grocery delivery so all of us could be safe.

They MUST be included in this 1B round. If you do not, you are completely disrespect their work, their health and all that they did and continue to do during this crisis

Sincerely,
Wendy Traeger

Sent from my iPhone

--

*COVID-19 Notice: *Masks or other face coverings must be worn by all adults who enter Wauwatosa School District buildings. Prior to entering a District building, all individuals must complete this form

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSduHx37qft1qKNADBohKgUIHN9rggJOER6s_PFsqd5aDOcFLg/viewform>.*Confidentiality Notice:

*

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From: [Mary Jo Dicristo](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee & phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 7:04:46 AM

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

PLEASE include grocery workers in this phase. As a 76 year old, how can I continue to do my grocery shopping, if there are fewer grocery workers to stock the shelves!

Please reconsider your initial decision on this vaccine implementation!

Sincerely,

Mary Jo Dicristo

From: [Lisa Heisel](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 7:04:13 AM

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

To whom it may concern,

Please consider adding grocery workers to the Phase 1B vaccine rollout. These workers are vital to the food chain and have been on the frontlines since day one of the pandemic.

Thank you,

Lisa Heisel

From: [Mary Jo Dicristo](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee , phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 6:58:23 AM

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

Please include grocery workers in this phase! They've been struggling to stay safe throughout this lockdown, now you snub them! Awful!

Mary Jo


From: [Kate Heller](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee-phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 6:56:52 AM

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

I feel grocery store workers should be part of phase 1b since they are essential workers.

Thank you
Anne Heller

From: [Sally Okruhlica](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine priority
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 6:54:17 AM

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

Grocery store workers deserve it! They can't control who they have contact with

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Kate Heller](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Grocery workers
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 6:54:04 AM

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

I feel grocery store workers should be part of group 1B as I consider them to still be essential workers.

Thank you

From: [Linda Steinke](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Sub Comm and 1B Roll out
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 6:53:41 AM

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

Hello:

You should include Grocery Store workers - they are dealing with the Public everyday! I am surprised to hear that you now consider them non-essential - really? Don't forget these people went to work at the start of the Pandemic when most people stayed safe in their homes... To not include these people would be a disgrace!

Thank you,

Linda Steinke
Cudahy, Wi

From: [Mindy Kraus](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Public Comment regarding Covid
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 6:53:31 AM

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

Grocery store workers should be part of the current Covid vaccination rollout. And definitely before those in jail. Prison workers should be part of the current rollout but inmates should be after those who serve our public and are with crowds every day.

Mindy

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Fran Quick](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Group 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 6:53:20 AM

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

I'd like to recommend that grocery workers be included in Group 1B.

They have been there for ALL of us during the entire pandemic. Almost everyone interacts in some way with a grocery worker, so vaccinating them may actually help to protect ALL of us.

Thank you,
Fran Quick



From: [Christine Midthun](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Grocery store employees
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 6:51:59 AM

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

I am a teacher for Milwaukee Public Schools. I feel it is very important to not only get all teachers vaccinated, but grocery store workers should also be included in the 1B group of people who are essential. These people have continued to work through the entire shutdown and provided us with the ability to buy food!!

Sincerely,
Chris Midthun

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Vicki Welch](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 6:50:14 AM

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

I am a grocery store worker who has worked thru this pandemic from day one. I think we should be included in the vaccine this time around. We were/are considered essential for all this time, and have been working with the public without little or no concern for our health. We won't even get paid if we contract the virus, which is totally unfair! Please include us.

Thank you,

Vicki Welch

From: [Matt K.](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 6:48:29 AM

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

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,
Matt K.

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

From: [Laurey Westler](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee and Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 6:47:49 AM

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

Good morning,

I would like to add my recommendation of grocery store employees to the 1B category of COVID 19 vaccine recipients. They are some of our most valuable workers who have been out in public every day for us, exposing themselves to hundreds of potentially infected customers daily. Without them, food security for all Wisconsin residents would have been compromised.

PLEASE ADD GROCERY STORE WORKERS TO THE COVID VACCINE 1B RECIPIENT CATEGORY!

Thank you for allowing me and all Wisconsin residents to voice our recommendations.

Laurey Westler
Cedar Grove WI

From: [marla.wiersum](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine face committee - 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 6:46:36 AM

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

I work at a grocery store and as long as this pandemic has been in effect we have all been considered “Frontline workers” - and now we are not? We risk our lives every day we going to work -and now you say “mink farmers” are more important than we are- please tell me how! We have customers that refuse to wear masks come in here and expose everybody including other customers to this virus – Please rethink this and include us in this phase...

From: [sandy heller-wahl](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Grocery Workers
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 6:45:30 AM

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

Good morning ~

Please include grocery workers in the next phase of COVID vaccines. In my opinion, their interaction with the public makes this a common sense decision, protecting both you and me.

INCLUDE GROCERY WORKERS IN GROUP 1B!!!!

Thank you,
Sandy Heller-Wahl

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [Anne Runnells](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Grocery store workers are essential
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 6:44:19 AM

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

What the Heck does a Mink farmer Trump a grocery store worker?

Tony Evers please answer that question. Call me personally...

From: [Pat Shain](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Essential Worker
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 6:44:13 AM

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

Good Morning;

I would like to plea to those who are in charge of “Phase 1-B” vaccines and who is eligible. I am one of ten’s of thousand’s of Grocery Store clerks who come into contact with 100’s of people each and everyday ! If it were not for us... ALL OF US... No one would be purchasing groceries!! From the start we were considered essential... but all of a sudden NOW we are not?? Can someone explain how that has happened??

Thank You for your consideration

Patrice Shain

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Anne Runnells](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Grocery store workers...
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 6:42:26 AM

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

OMG!!

As an essential worker myself, I can't believe this group of workers is NOT ON 1B LIST!!!
Get it together Wisconsin. Start working for the people and not yourselves.
How many Gov't workers are non-essential workers who have gotten their shots???

Put this dedicated group ESSENTIAL WORKERS on the list TODAY!!

DO IT NOW!!!

From: [laurie gauger](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee and Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 6:40:43 AM

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

GROCERY STORE WORKERS MUST BE INCLUDED IN PHASE 1B!!! They are face to face with hundreds of people a day and have to touch everything that is put in front of them. Without them you'd go hungry! Please vaccinate them in phase 1B!!

Laurie Gauger

Sent from my iPad

From: [Ellen Rocque](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 6:40:09 AM

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

Please include grocery workers in this phase for the vaccine, there certainly are many exposures possible for workers and customers.

Please include those 65 and older. People in that group very often have underlined health issues. They are at higher risk for becoming very ill and even need hospitalization.

Thank you for considering,
Ellen L Rocque
Brookfield, Will

Sent from my iPhone

From: outlook_8BF79187390BD28C@outlook.com
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 6:38:32 AM

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

I think grocery clerks, those incarcerated and funeral home employees should be in this group (1B) for covid vaccinations. They are in highly at risk scenarios.

Niedra North

[REDACTED]

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: [kthibodeau](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: phase 1b recommendations
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 6:38:30 AM

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

Hello,

I am writing to urge you to add grocery store employees and retail workers to the 1B vaccination group. The employees at my local Festival Foods and Target have been my lifeline throughout this crisis and I feel they deserve to have this opportunity after putting their health and safety on the line for nearly a year. They were deemed essential early on and should continue to be treated that way.

Thank you.
Karen Thibodeau

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

From: [Lewis, Mary](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee phase 1b
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 6:38:16 AM

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

To whom it may concern,

Please strongly consider adding grocery store workers to phase 1b immunization for COVID. These people have been on the front line throughout the pandemic and remain at risk. I am an ED physician and have seen many in this population become ill due to their jobs. Thank you.

Mary Lewis MD
Assistant Professor of emergency Medicine
Medical College of Wisconsin

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Andrew Thooft](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1B vaccine subcommittee
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 6:38:04 AM

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

To whom it may concern,

Please add grocery workers to be included in Phase 1B rollout of the vaccine.

Thank you,
Andrew Thooft

From: [J Klein](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: GROCERY STORE WORKERS ARE ESSENTIAL
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 6:37:31 AM

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

These people are interacting with the public constantly and they are at risk! Please consider vaccinating these people soon! Keeping in mind that they generally make less money and don't have the luxury of missing work. We need to protect this portion of our community.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [ANGELA DOSKOCIL](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1B vaccinations
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 6:37:05 AM

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

I have been a grocery store worker for over 32 years, I would like to bring a few things I see and have experienced in my time with this job to your attention, I find it hard to believe that Wisconsin would now break from the CDC recommendations that grocery workers be vaccinated in Phase 1B.

A few things I would like you to consider:

Grocery workers I would suggest are in contact with more people, without any of the screening for someone being sick (besides the Health industry and first responders) then any occupation I can think of.

The customers we are in contact with have no accountability to us, meaning if they are shopping while in quarantine that is just something we are subjected to. This happens a lot. Some people actually feel this is just acceptable, after all "everyone has to eat" that makes it o.k.

Grocery store workers are generally at the lowest pay scale for any job let alone a high risk job, please understand many workers live paycheck to paycheck, quarantine for some is not an option.

The customers that we have the closest contact with are the disabled and the elderly, they generally need the most help from us, and we are happy to do it.

Many of the part time employees are young fit people, the perfect silent spreaders unaware they are sick. The store I work at averages 1000 customers a day, last I asked.

Being included in the next phase of vaccination is not only to protect the workers, it is vital in protecting our communities. Asymptomatic employees are the perfect conduit for spreading this disease, to more people than any other daily activity. I read a study conducted in Boston they found a large number of grocery workers had been infected with Covid 19, but the more alarming fact was that almost all had been asymptomatic, aka silent spreaders.

Thank you for
listening

From: [Peter Hill](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 6:37:01 AM

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

To whom it may concern,

I believe all grocery store workers and delivery drivers should be in this 1B group. We are essential workers we have been working throughout this pandemic. They have the most contact with people and need to be vaccinated against this virus. So they may not contract it and or pass it to somebody else. Stop the spread!

Thank you
Peter Hill

From: [Rick](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Grocery workers
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 6:35:25 AM

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

Sent from my iPad

From: [brendonandmelanie](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee 1b recommendations
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 6:32:38 AM

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

Hi there,

I am writing to request that all grocery store employees be added to the 1b group eligible for covid vaccination. It's really important that this group who has sacrificed so much for the rest of us be inoculated asap.

I also would like to comment on flexibility going forward. In Madison, many 1b firefighters and police have already been vaccinated. If a local dept has already taken care of their 1a or 1b population, let them move on without threat. It was very disappointing when Janesville's school district and Mercy Health were basically threatened for moving on to teachers. We need to get the shots in people's arms, not keep them in refrigerators. Dr. Fauci said as much yesterday.

Thank you for your time.

Melanie Smith

Sent from my Galaxy

From: [Allison Gugler](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 6:27:40 AM

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

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,
Ted Balistreri
Nick Balistreri
Patrick Balistreri
Margaret Harris

Sincerely,
Allison Gugler



From: [Sarah Halverson](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 6:21:54 AM

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

To the vaccine subcommittee,
Please consider adding grocery store workers to the 1B phase of the vaccine rollout. They have been frontline workers since March. When we locked down businesses and schools, grocery stores were open through it all.
Thank you for your time and consideration.
Sarah Halverson

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Linda Vieth](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: 1b participants for vaccine
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 6:08:40 AM

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

Please add the following groups to the IB group to get vaccinated.

-Grocery store essential workers

-High risk people over 65

Thank you.

Linda Vieth

Milwaukee, WI

Sent from my iPhone

From: [The Hougarmo gang](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B Grocery Employees
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 6:07:51 AM

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

Do not move grocery store employees further down the Covid Vaccine list!
They must get it in Phase 1B

Marge Miles

From: [Marge Maliborski](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B Grocery Employees
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 6:06:12 AM

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

Grocery store employees are considered Essential.

They must be part of Phase 1B ! If you do NOT consider them Essential, then shut down, close the doors on all stores selling food.

I'm assuming members of your committee do not shop for groceries. Because, if you did, you'd see the absurdity in the decision to move them further away from getting the protection they, and shoppers need.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [Cynde Dornuf](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee phase 1b
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 6:00:40 AM

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

Please include grocery store workers in phase 1b of covid-19 vaccination. These minimum wage workers are least likely to have the financial means to quarantine or pay for significant health care costs. If we want to continue purchase food items without interruption, we need to keep them healthy.

Cynde Dornuf

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Sent from my Verizon Motorola Smartphone

From: [Deborah Lathen](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Next in line "Grocery Workers"
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 5:42:41 AM

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

Good morning, I'm a lil puzzled as to why what level the Grocery Workers would fall under and the President of the Workers Association would be told that "Grocery Workers" are not considered "Essential Workers" anymore. I'm sorry but those Essential Workers are who got every single one of us through this Pandemic up til this point and continue to do so. I'm pretty sure these Essential Workers helped put food on your families table, your neighbors table, the Nursing homes table and put their lives in danger of Covid-19 every single second of every single day while "showing up and putting out" while their one lives were in jeopardy. I'm sorry but I'm my opinion the Grocery workers should fall into the front line workers and this questioned shouldn't even be up for debate. They pulled us through and what a slap in the face to them...

Sincerely,
Deborah L Lathen



Sent from my iPhone

From: [Pamela Bluemner](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Grocery employees essential workers
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 5:41:46 AM

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

I really can not believe you took grocery store workers off the essential list. We are always in contact with customers who refuse to wear masks. You put inmates criminals before for us is a slap in the face. Without us staying open how do you think the public was going to eat and get cleaning supplies??? I like to know who made this decision to tell me my life now is unessential but a criminal is.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [obrienshannon4455](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: grocery store workers
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 5:35:09 AM

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

Grocery store workers are absolutely essential workers and should be next for vaccines. They have provided an essential service throughout this pandemic! This being in question is a slap in their faces!

Sent from my Galaxy Tab A

From: [Becky Lutz](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 5:34:30 AM

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

I feel grocery store workers should be included in 1b. Teachers currently teaching in person should be included but teachers currently teaching virtually should be included in the next phase. Funeral home employers should be included in 1 b. Prisoners and staff should be included in 1 b. Any persons required to work in person currently should be included in 1 b. Any person currently working virtually should be in next phase.

From: [erich muckelberg](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B Grocery Employees
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 5:24:49 AM

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

Please put our grocery workers in the essential category.

Thank you

Erich Muckelberg
Fox Point, WI

I like coconuts

From: [Lucy R.](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee, Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 5:14:05 AM

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

Please include grocery store workers in phase 1B of the Coronavirus Vaccine Roll-out Plan.

My son is 47. He works in the **produce department of a large grocery store**. He is in **close contact** with hundreds of adults each day, many of whom refuse to wear a mask or who wear it incorrectly. He is not eligible for the vaccine under your current plan.

I beg you to **add grocery store workers to Phase 1B** to protect those people who have diligently worked to keep Wisconsin's food supply flowing during this difficult and dangerous time.

Thank you.
Lucy Rumpf
Neenah, WI

From: [Ian Marten](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1b
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 3:59:52 AM

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

Grocery workers are essential and on the front line! They must be included in 1b!!!!

Ian Marten

From: [Nicholas Osthelder](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: "vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B 1 18 21
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 3:01:35 AM

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

Good day. I understand that comments are being accepted about grocery workers and the Covid 19 vaccine. I have been working as a cashier at a grocery store for 2 1/2 years. The store that I work in is at times very busy. The bottom line is that the workers in our store need to be vaccinated as soon as possible. We have been risking our health and well being since last March. Our workers are not isolated. There is no reason to delay our workers from getting Covid Vaccine Shots. If there is not enough vaccine then The State Of Wisconsin has to obtain more. More vaccines have to be produced by the drug companies. The federal government also has to help. This pandemic has gone on long enough. To exclude grocery workers from the second tier of people to get vaccinated is absurd. We have been risking our health throughout the length of this pandemic. Please don't treat grocery store workers like fourth class citizens. They do not deserve that. Thank you.

--

Nicholas Osthelder



From: [Rhiannon Kurtz](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee - Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 11:59:15 PM

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

Dear Wisconsin Vaccine Advisory Board members,

I'm writing to ask you to please vote to **INCLUDE** grocery workers and food industry workers in the 1B tier of coronavirus vaccine eligibility. I'm a native Wisconsinite with a job in a locally owned, locally run grocery store; my fellow service industry workers and I serve millions of customers a day in our great state. I feel it is essential for grocery and restaurant workers to retain as high a priority of access to the COVID-19 vaccine as possible. This is due to the significant potential for infection and transmission via the Wisconsin food system. Though information about the proper use of masks has been widely available since last March, I can say with certainty that the people around me in public continue to act irresponsibly, putting my life -- indeed, the lives of hundreds of thousands of Wisconsinites -- at risk while we perform our otherwise relatively safe jobs.

This will not only protect those of us often ignored frontline workers -- yes, grocery stores have been at the frontlines, and restaurants forced to stay open in lieu of meaningful government assistance in a global pandemic -- who have put their lives on the line for our state to ensure people have access to nutritious and healthy food. It will also help prevent grocery stores and restaurants from continuing to function as major points of viral outbreaks and public transmission. As public transmission is the hardest type of viral transmission to trace and control, ensuring that grocery stores and restaurants keep their high-priority status will help reduce the overall spread (and subsequent deaths), and is vital to preventing more damage to our state by the already out-of-control COVID-19 pandemic.

We know that many individuals in our state will refuse the vaccine already, in large numbers, due to misinformation and distrust of vaccines. Because of this, we need to ensure that our service industry personnel can also serve as firewalls to transmission, rather than amplifiers; after all, many of us are living paycheck to paycheck, and have had no opportunity to voluntarily quarantine, much less risk becoming houseless for missing work as the death tolls rise. This is the only way we will be able to ensure Wisconsin emerges from the pandemic quickly and without exacerbating the already egregious, preventable loss of life we've seen so far.

Hospitals, prisons, jails, grocery stores, restaurants, dorm rooms, assisted living complexes, and any areas of high concentration of people, or a large concentration of high-risk individuals, must be vaccinated first. This is Pandemic Response 101, and our state is failing miserably.

We have had as many deaths in Wisconsin (5,907 at the time of this email) due to COVID-related causes as the entire population of Cuba (166 deaths), Vietnam (35 deaths), Venezuela (1,101 deaths), and China (4,635 deaths) put together, which accounts for 263 times as many

people as our state (approximately 1.534B people in those four countries, to 5.822M people in Wisconsin). We need to continue to prioritize transmission points to isolate clusters of breakouts so they do not spread rapidly across the state. We cannot remove these vital gathering points from Phase 1B.

When you vote on Phase 1B, vote to include grocery and food industry workers in this category.

Respectfully yours,

Rhiannon Kurtz

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

From: [Sara Kartz](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee + Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 11:45:12 PM

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

Dear Wisconsin Vaccine Advisory board -

please prioritize grocery workers, (& other food industry people).

Thank you
Sara

From: [Jeanne T Schrank](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 10:59:58 PM

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

Grocery workers absolutely need to have access to the Covid-19 vaccine in the next round of vaccinations.

Jeanne Schrank



From: [Kimberly Christine](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Public comment for Vaccine Subcommittee 1b
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 10:53:24 PM

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I think it is vital for grocery workers to be in 1b. They make starvation wages and have kept our state fed throughout multiple dangerous surges of the virus. Many have been sickened from Covid and some have died. And still they keep showing up to work. Please, let them have access! Grocery workers are disproportionately people of color who have been hit especially hard by the virus and typically lack health insurance, savings, and paid time off now that Covid paid leave expired 12/31. I know the virus spreads closely in prison settings but it seems like such a slap in the face letting grocery workers carry any more burden for no safety or reward while preferentially vaccinating people who surrendered their freedom by committing criminal acts. I would far prefer allowing more remote monitoring of nonviolent criminals into community settings than force grocery workers to wait any longer. Please, help them!

Thank you,
Kim L.
Shorewood, WI

From: [mhammer4](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee phase 1b
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 10:51:15 PM

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I am asking that you would follow the cdc guidelines and include grocery store workers in group 1b. We are in contact with people daily and have been since the beginning of the pandemic. We have been considered essential workers & have been at work keeping the food supply chain going for our communities. We do not have the option of safely working from home

Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE Device

From: [Scott Dziadosz](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 10:37:45 PM

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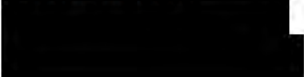
Dear Committee Member,

I am an employee of Sendik's Food Markets, a retail grocer serving the citizens of Wisconsin. Throughout the pandemic, my coworkers and I have been at work each day doing our jobs so that the people of Wisconsin had food available. We were, and are, in harms way coming into contact with hundreds of people each day. We have no ability to work remotely.

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,
Scott Dziadosz

Sincerely ,
Scott Dziadosz



From: [Kim Krueger](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee - "Phase 1B" and Grocery Store Workers
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 10:16:49 PM

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

Hello,

From the beginning of the pandemic, grocery store employees have been considered essential workers who work to get food to people through the thick and thin of the pandemic. Modern life and society cannot exist without grocery stores and the people who work with them. My name is Kimberly Krueger. I am 19, a UW-Green Bay student, and a grocery store worker. I have been working at Festival Foods since 2017 in Guest Services where I check out customers each day with their groceries that keep their life going in these times. I interact with hundreds of people in a shift, hundreds that may have COVID-19. I cannot avoid touching what they touch and avoid interacting with people many others can. I interact with those who refuse to wear masks on a daily basis. I have been lucky enough to not contract the virus, but I know people who I have worked with in a grocery store that have. Many workers can stay at home and interact from a virtual standpoint, but grocery store workers like myself cannot. I am a young individual, likely to survive a case of COVID-19 but contracting COVID-19 and having serious consequences because of it is not even my greatest fear. My greatest fear is spreading COVID-19 to my immunocompromised family members. I live with my grandfather, Myron Byers, who has been struggling with cancer for many months and undergoing chemo that weakens his body and immune system. If he contracted COVID-19, there is a likely chance it would end his life. My grandfather rarely goes outside of his house because of COVID-19 besides his treatments for cancer. This means that if he contracted the virus, it would likely be from me because I work at a grocery store. If something awful happened to him because of COVID-19 and my employment as a grocery store worker, I could never live with myself.

One may ask if I could quit my job and work somewhere more safe. The answer is no. Firstly, I have worked years at Festival Foods and am proud of my job and what I do. and secondly, while I may not have to worry about being homeless if I do not work, everyone still needs to make money to survive. I am a student who is trying to advance in life and profession, and I cannot do that without finances that I get from working at a grocery store.

I have witnessed many of my coworkers contract COVID-19 and risk their family's lives because they work on the front lines. It is heartbreaking and stressful as grocery stores get busier and busier in the pandemic because people need food. I have witnessed all of these events firsthand and what it causes for the lives of grocery store workers who help feed their communities and families.

When I heard Wisconsin was not considering grocery store employees "essential workers" for Phase 1B of the vaccine, I was stunned and to be brutally honest, angry. The CDC has recommended that grocery store workers be included in the second phase of vaccinations and I am questioning why the state is not following that recommendation. I am also upset because grocery store workers have been on the frontlines from the beginning. It may not be like healthcare workers, but we interact with many people and are responsible for people getting food each and every day. We need the vaccine to protect ourselves in our essential

workplace, to protect our families, and to protect our communities from making the pandemic even more devastating.

I am not sure if my comments and concerns will have an influence on the rollout of Phase 1B but if grocery store workers are still considered "Essential", please include us in Phase 1B of the vaccine. We have been working long hours during the pandemic since the beginning and will continue to do so despite the risks.

Thank you for your time,
Kimberly Krueger

From: [Chris Schinske](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 10:16:46 PM

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

Grocery workers have been at risk this whole time, still dealing with people not wearing masks. I am 65, thought I would be included in next group!

From: [Monica Patelski](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine sub committee Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 10:15:10 PM

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

I think people who work in grocery stores should be in Group 1B.
They are essential workers and are in contact with the public daily

TAKE THE MINK FARMERS OFF THE LIST!!!! THEY ARE NOT ESSENTIAL!!

From: [Melva Sabatke](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee/Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 10:08:52 PM

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

As an essential worker in the food and beverage industry, we need to get the vaccine asap. This industry has been hit the hardest and we need these small businesses to survive. People don't realize how much this one industry effects so many people. We need to stay in the 1b group. It is vital to the economy.

Thank you.
Melva Sabatke

From: [Sara Gresbach](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Include grocery store workers in 1b
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 10:08:42 PM

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

To whom it may concern,
I am writing to express my concern that grocery store workers be included in the 1b group of vaccinations.

Grocery stores are essential to the public and their workers have kept stores safe and running for the past year of this pandemic. They deserve to have access to vaccinations sooner than later to ensure their safety and continued service for the public.

Thank you,
Sara Gresbach

From: krades@new.rr.com
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 9:53:26 PM

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

To whom it may concern:

I appreciate you taking the time to read this email. I strongly urge you to reconsider your stance on not including Grocery Clerks in the Phase 1B group to receive the covid19 vaccine.

I hope that seeing stocked shelves or getting everything you need from your Instacart order has not given you the false impression that things are going good in the grocery industry during the pandemic. We are struggling to keep enough healthy employees working each day.

Grocery stores have been open throughout the entire pandemic. For 10 months we have been working day and night to make sure residents of Wisconsin do not return to panic buying, long checkout lines and no toilet paper. When communities needed us to be there – WE WERE OPEN and we have tried so hard to provide the essential items that customers need.

Now we need your help.

As quarantines and positive cases continue to rise throughout grocery store workers, we struggle daily to cover the shifts needed to keep our store stocked. We want to be there for our Communities. We want to continue to give customers the peace of mind that when they walk through the door they will be able to find the items they need on their store list.

Our store serves THOUSANDS of customers each day. There is absolutely NO CHANCE to practice 6 feet of social distance. We have to be in close contact with customers. We are the exact definition of being a “public facing essential worker.”

Including Grocery Clerks in Phase 1B benefits THE ENTIRE STATE OF WISCONSIN! All areas statewide could be assured that their access to essential items would not be interrupted. Please add us to Phase 1B.

Respectfully,
Kevin Rades
Appleton, WI





This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.
www.avast.com

From: [Owen O'Donoghue](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 9:51:58 PM

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

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,
Owen O'Donoghue

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

From: [Debra Verkuilen](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 9:47:40 PM

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

January 17,2021

I am a grocery store customer and my son, who lives with us. He is very conscious of our age and declining health. He does our grocery shopping after his work, comes home, showers and changes clothes to prevent germs getting us. He blows his nose, sanitizes his car interior before driving and if he sneezes or coughs has wipes to wipe down his car.

He wears a mask at work and whenever he goes out. He continues to encourage others to wear a mask for their safety and his own. If we do go out, he makes sure the place isn't crowded or we don't go in.

He cleans between customers if he is checking, helps his bagger with bagging when time allows. Tells us about the customers who fight about wearing a mask, or use profanity or belittling comments to promote safety or the spread of the disease. He has encouraged peers to ask about leaving if they are sick with symptoms. Then cleans the area as well as possible. Even though they are timed in different roles he does his best to smile, assist customers and peers as able, and many customers look for him to let him know they would rather have him checking than what he may be doing. He handles chemicals for cleaning and sanitizer for his skin.

I can't believe the government doesn't believe grocery staff as essential! Without groceries, distilled or drinking water, personal items, just to name a few of items that are weekly needs for an average family. Why not give the grocery employee the choice whether they want the vaccine or not. My husband and I are 72 years and 68 years with declining health. We gave up vacations last year and this also gives him extra stress since no relaxation of our choice. He also compliments young mask wears whenever possible.

Please reconsider grocery staff ARE ESSENTIAL WORKERS!
Debra Verkuilen Appleton, WI

From: [Joleen Semmann](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine vaccine subcommittee 1b
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 9:47:23 PM

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

I am writing to implore you to include grocers and grocery store essential workers in the next phase 1b of vaccine distribution. They have been there for all of us during this pandemic and we owe them this support.

Thank you,
Joleen Semmann

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Lazarte, Megan S.](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Grocery Worker Vaccine Prioritization
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 9:37:02 PM

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

Dear Vaccine Subcommittee Members,

I write today as a loved one of someone who works in the grocery industry. Personally, I have been fortunate enough to work from home for the last 10 months, and care for my children who are also attending school from home. My husband, who works to ensure that grocery supply chains are functioning, and grocery shelves are stocked, has not had that luxury. He has gone out into the world every day, interacting with people who, in some cases, believe that COVID is a hoax and refuse to take proper precautions against infection. There is no more basic need than to eat and drink, and my husband, as a requirement of his profession, has had no choice but to risk his own health, and that of his family, to go out into the world and ensure that food and drink are available to keep people alive and healthy, and to keep our economy from collapsing.

The recommendation to downgrade grocery workers to group 1C, despite the constant dangers they face and the critical role they play in maintaining a functioning society is misguided. Healthcare workers were prioritized first, which should be commended and celebrated. Grocery workers, and the supply of food, drink, and essentials they provide, are no less essential to a functioning society than healthcare providers.

My husband has risked his life for 10 months now to ensure people could access the essentials they need. Please reconsider moving him back to group 1B.

Your sincerely,

Megan Lazarte | Finance Director
P: 608 935-6479 | megan.lazarte@landsend.com

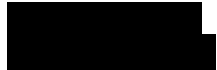


From: [Lisa Weaver](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee and Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 9:26:51 PM

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

I am writing to heartily recommend that grocery store workers receive the vaccine in the 1B group. Grocery store workers have been working throughout the pandemic and are vital to food distribution for all citizens. Thank you for very much.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Weaver



From: [Jen Schlegel](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 9:17:09 PM

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

Hello, I truly believe that grocery store and restaurant workers should be included in the 1B phase. They are absolutely essential to the entire community's health.

Please vote to protect them as soon as possible!!!

Jennifer Schlegel

From: [Carl Wallenmeyer](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Grocery workers getting vaccine
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 9:14:05 PM

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

Hi

It seems to me that grocery workers should be vaccinated before the general public. Some may think they aren't essential workers, but the people who provide our food are important to everyone.

Carl Wallenmeyer

From: [Dale Lenz](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee - phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 9:11:06 PM

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

Many of these essential workers are older and have no choice but to work. I'm in my 70's and can stay home but my son-in-law has no choice!! He is a grocery store worker and in his 50's.

Dale Lenz

Sent from my iPad

From: [alberto lazarte garcia](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: covid Vaccine prioritization
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 9:03:37 PM

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

Dear Vaccine Subcommittee Members,

I write today as an employee of Certco, Inc. We are a wholesale grocery distributor who service independent grocery stores in Wisconsin, along with other states in the upper Midwest. We are owned by the grocery stores that we service.

I ask that there be reconsideration and you include our industry in tier 1B in the COVID-19 vaccination plan. CDC guidance on the COVID-19 vaccine distribution was released even before the announcement of a vaccine, and had our industry listed as part of tier 1B, as essential public facing workers.

I am disheartened to hear the committee is not following this guidance and is instead recommending our industry should receive the vaccine as part of tier 1C.

All healthcare workers, public safety workers and child care center workers are factored in tier 1A and 1B. Grocery workers and food supply essential workers were also mentioned in the same breath as these industries since early March of 2020 and called "Heroes". Yet, we are now left without the benefit of hope that these same individuals are getting.

Please reconsider your revised plan for Tier 1B to include our industry.

Moving the age tier down to include individuals above age 70, instead of 75 years of age, is protecting a new group that has been kept safe by the State orders to stay home, and they have been fed due to us and the stores we service.

Food is essential to the survival for all mankind, regardless of age. My coworkers and I have been working tirelessly to ensure people have the food and supplies they need available to them in order to follow the "Shelter in Place" and "Safer at Home" orders set forth by the state of Wisconsin. Without me and my co-workers remaining healthy and the grocery store workers staying healthy, we will have a much larger issue on our hands in keeping the food available to all Wisconsin residents.

To be called heroes for 10 months and have this glimmer of hope for a vaccine ripped out of our hands is a shame. Please reconsider.

Sincerely,
Alberto Lazarte

From: [Carol Weiss](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 8:57:47 PM

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Grocery Employees.

Please keep Grocery Employees in the 1B phase of getting the Covid-19 vaccine. Please do not move them away from that position.

They have been essential all along.

Please don't disregard them now!

Thank you,

Sincerely,

Carol Marie Weiss

From: [Michael Johnson](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 8:57:10 PM

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

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 worked in the industry for 35 years and never would have thought that my life or the lives of my co-workers would ever be in jeopardy. As essential workers on the front lines, I implore you to take action for those of us that show up to keep the public supplied with the items they need to survive everyday.

Sincerely,
Michael Johnson



From: [Kelsey Foster](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee - COVID-19 Vaccine Priority Group 1b
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 8:56:40 PM

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

Hello, I am writing to encourage the inclusion of grocery store employees in COVID-19 Vaccine Priority Group 1B.

I am the Front End Manager at Willy Street Co-op North in Madison, although I am writing on my own behalf and not speaking for the Co-op. My co-workers and I have been essential throughout the pandemic, as have my colleagues at all grocery stores across the state. While other businesses, schools, and public buildings closed to the public and switched to virtual modes, that was not and will not be an option for grocery stores. We have continued to work very closely with the public throughout the pandemic, and will continue to do so.

[The CDC recommendations for phase 1B specifically mention grocery store workers in their list of frontline essential workers](#) - and that makes sense. There may be plexiglass barriers at registers, but employees stocking items on the sales floor are undefended from customers who do not follow social distance guidelines. Baggers at the ends of registers are, as one of my co-workers put it, "in no man's land." Staff who deliver groceries or take out curbside orders must get within 6 ft of customers who, because they are not in our store, cannot be required to wear a face covering. There are many spaces in our stores where staff cannot socially distance, like break rooms or offices. Some situations require getting close to customers - for example, when I am helping a customer use a credit card machine, or when one of us helps a blind customer with their shopping. And of course, we are at work for up to 8 hours a day, meaning we will at times need to remove our face coverings to eat or drink, usually while in close proximity to others.

I understand that adding grocery store workers to the group 1B would mean significantly expanding the number of people to be vaccinated. That could be challenging, although if we are not part of group 1B, it simply expands the number of people in group 1C. Perhaps there would need to be limits placed, such as specifying only employees who actually work in stores on the floor would be part of 1B, and administrative or warehouse workers who have little or no direct contact with customers would not be eligible in group 1B.

Grocery stores cannot become online or carryout/pickup only, the way that many stores and restaurants have. Everyone needs to eat, and there is no way that online ordering could absorb the volume of transactions and sales of in-store shopping. There are also those who cannot shop online: people using SNAP and WIC, people who do not have credit or debit cards, people without computers or internet access at home, people who cannot afford pickup or delivery fees. There will always be a need for grocery stores to remain open to the public, and so there will always be workers in those stores closely interacting with people for hours on end.

I urge you to reconsider excluding grocery store workers from group 1B. Follow the CDC

recommendations. Help protect some of the most essential workers in our state.

Thank you,

Kelsey Foster
she/her
Madison, WI

From: [Sean "Moby" V](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 8:47:01 PM

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So how can grocery store employees not be essential.

Everyday we have to wake up and leave our family and enter the world. At the store we have to work around people that got back from seeing different people and we don't know what they are carrying. Our customers come in sneezing coughing, spreading germs. They may pick items, to put in their cart or put it back on shelf then another customer touches the item and brings it for check out. They don't look ill but will be if they forget to sanitize their hands before touching them. Also, we have over 400 people coming and going, who knows what they have touched or been in contact with. If we are not essential then we should shut down for a month and see where you will get your food, drinks, personal items from.

We are responsible for cleaning our areas after each customer, while helping our bagger, keeping our timing up, our area organized, and ready for the next customer.

Plus, we have to go back home to our family that are at home, we are always covered in germs. If we live, with older parents we are worried about we going to get them sick. We have to use chemicals strong everyday to clean that can be harmful for us so who knows what is going to do to our body later in the future. We have to handle dirty money that customer touches, and they may also lick their fingers to separate the bills as they hand it to us. Thanks for handing us your germs.

So, when you wake and read this think about us at the grocery working a lot of hours to help cover shortage due to the sickness. The stress level of dealing with customer yelling at us for making them wear a mask. If we not essential how are you going to provide food for your family when we shut down to show... we are important.

Thanks

Sean Verkuilen a grocery worker for 20 years.

From: [Barbara Enes](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 8:43:49 PM

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

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,
Barbara Enes



From: [Vanessa St.John](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Group 1b vaccination
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 8:29:05 PM

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

I am writing to urge you to add grocery store workers to group 1b. These workers are continually exposed to the public, and far too many customers do not wear masks. Also, please keep teachers in group 1b. As a mom I have seen how difficult and taxing it has been on our district when a staff member is out sick, or quarantined.

Thank you,
Vanessa St.John
Delafield, WI

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Paul Riesgraf](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Regarding grocery store employees
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 8:28:22 PM

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

I'm asking you to reconsider and put essential grocery store employees in this next phase for the vaccine. They have and are working to help our community have access to the food chain . Fran Riesgraf

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Breanne Cyr](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine distribution
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 8:24:10 PM

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

Dear SDMAC,

I would like to voice my opinion on the order of vaccine distribution.

I think it is imperative to vaccinate the **elderly and people with pre-existing conditions** (not including smoking) as soon as possible. If you need to start with 80+, and go in increments to 70 and 65, that's understandable. We need to protect the people most likely to suffer severe symptoms or death. I live with my elderly parents and it is terrifying to me that I could bring home the virus because I go in to work. We do not go anywhere - not even the grocery store - and do not see anyone outside our household. I work in essential animal care so cannot do that work from home.

Thank you,
Breanne Cyr

From: [Karen dunn](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: 65+ Vaccine priority
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 8:16:32 PM

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

Committee,

Please consider adding vulnerable adults 65+ to the Phase 1b rollout of the Covid-19 vaccine.

The CDC has recently identified this group as having the potential for severe illness and complications from the disease. Other states including our Minnesota neighbor have agreed with this policy.

I agree that it's vital that all healthcare workers and those working with Covid patients should take priority, however I disagree with vaccinating all frontline workers in other professions. For example: bank tellers, grocery store clerks, etc. Many in this very large group are less likely to experience the serious symptoms that vulnerable seniors can.

I implore you to please reconsider adding 65+, (especially those with co-morbidities) to the phase 1b rollout, and protect the most vulnerable.

Thank you,

Karen Dunn

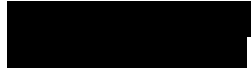
From: [Ellen Lang Roder](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee - phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 8:12:33 PM

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

Hello,

Please place grocery store workers on the high priority list to receive covid vaccines. I don't work for a grocery store and I don't have family members who do - however, I have been utilizing the online shopping option at area grocery stores and have been so grateful to those workers who are putting their lives at risk. They don't make much money and I know from conversations with many that they are feeling very vulnerable right now. Please allow them to get vaccinated asap!!! They are most definitely essential workers!

Thank you,
Ellen Roder



From: [Gayle Effinger](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Fwd: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 8:09:02 PM

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----- Forwarded message -----

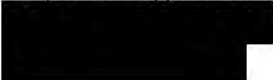
From: **Gayle Effinger** <drwatson1226@gmail.com>
Date: Sun, Jan 17, 2021 at 7:39 PM
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
To: DSHSSDMAC@dhs.wisconsin.gov <DSHSSDMAC@dhs.wisconsin.gov>

To Whom It May Concern,

It would be appreciated to see group 1B include teachers, grocery workers, adults 65 and older, and adults with serious pre-existing conditions which put them at increased risk. Please consider these high risk individuals in group 1B.

Thank you,

Gayle Effinger, RN



From: [Pam](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1b
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 8:05:49 PM

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

I am writing to request reconsideration of including grocery employees in phase 1b for vaccinations. As many of our businesses were forced to close due to the pandemic this group of workers continued to put themselves and their families at risk to keep those of us lucky enough to shelter in place supplied with our essential items. These are the same employees who often work irregular hours at lower wages and fewer sick days making their risk that much higher if they were to get ill. Please reconsider including them in phase 1b.

Thank you,
Pam Gende
Milwaukee, WI

Sent from my iPhone

From: [phillip Weinfurtner](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee and Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 8:04:46 PM

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I feel that grocery workers should most definitely be in the next phase for COVID vaccinations. They have to be considered as essential workers, especially after all the time they have put in during this pandemic. They are in constant contact with people, not knowing if that person has Covid, has had contact with someone with COVID, not wearing a mask appropriately or not wearing a mask at all. In addition, if we want to start getting control of COVID, we need to vaccinate the people who are in contact with the most people. Just think how many people go in and out of a grocery store every day.

Please consider grocery workers as essential workers and let's get them vaccinated. It's the least we can do for all they have given up during all of this.

Thank you.

Carol Weinfurtner

From: [S.J](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee phase 1b
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 8:01:04 PM

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If at all possible, I think front line workers who were deemed essential, like grocery store workers, should be included. Also, if possible, age 65 and up sure would be nice. All of us Johnsons are certainly past that age. And lastly, God bless Governor Evers. Sincerely, Sheila Johnson

From: [Nancy Ziegler](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: I am an essential worker
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 7:55:31 PM

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

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.

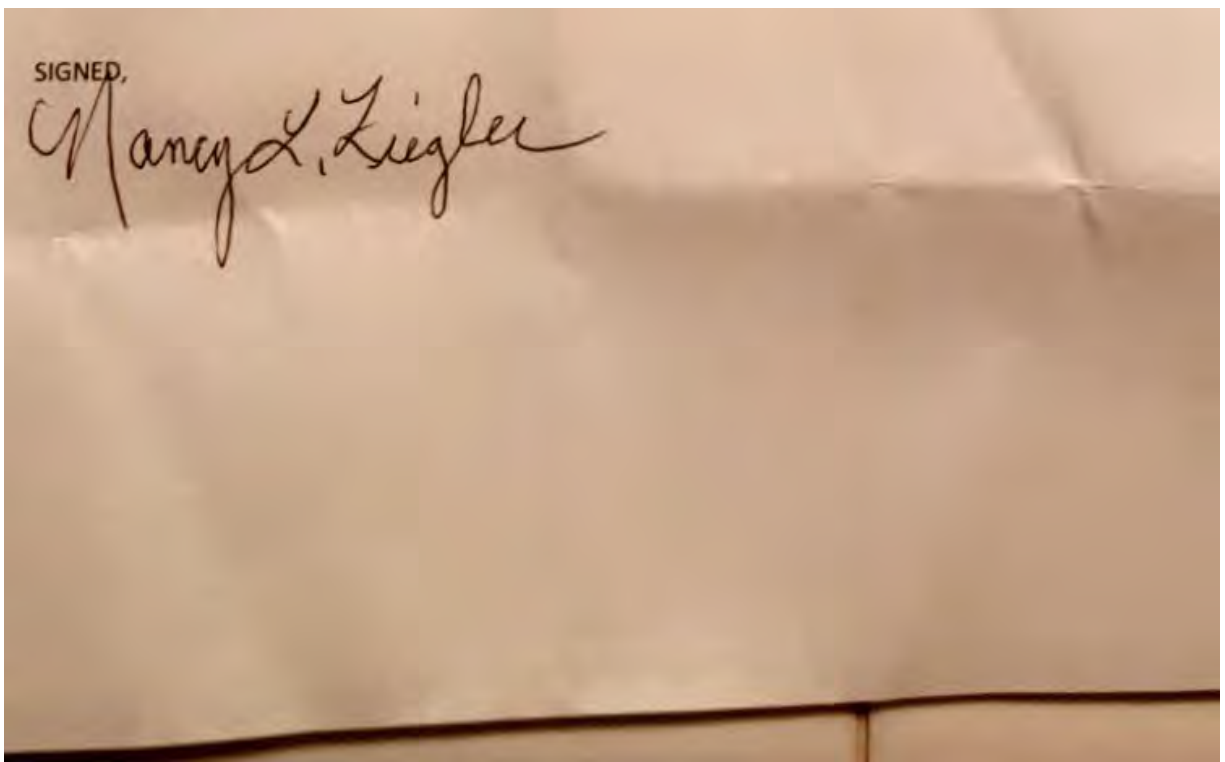
BUT NOW I AM TOLD I AM NOT AN ESSENTIAL WORKER. ALL OF MY HARD WORK AND SACRIFICE OF MYSELF, MY FAMILY AND MY LOVED ONES MEANS NOTHING. I AM NO LONGER A PRIORITY TO RECEIVE A VACCINE.

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 RECOMMENDATION 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.



[Sent from the all new Aol app for iOS](#)

From: [Brianna Danek](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 7:53:09 PM

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

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.

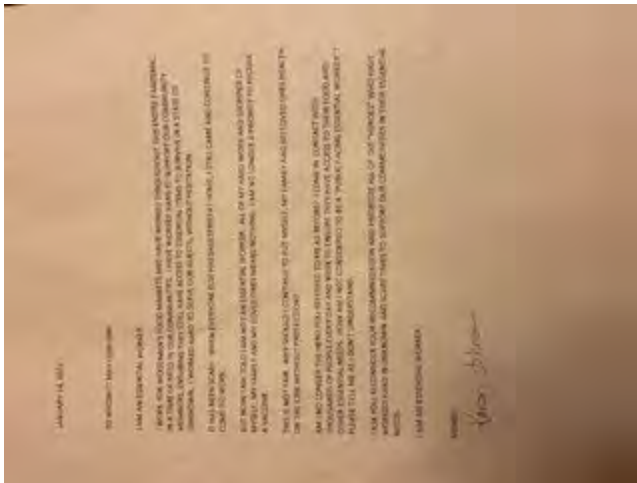
I work at grocery store, and through my time I've had to cover a lot of shifts for my cousin workers who were quarantined. I'm a high school student, and I take the shifts for the extra money but that means I end up more stressed because I don't know when the next person will be out and how much time I'll have to sacrifice for my job to keep the place running. Furthermore, as I pay my own phone bill and am saving for college, I need this money, I can't afford to be out for two weeks and not make anything. I know it's a hard time for everyone, including political people, but it's hard on me and the other students I know trying to cover shifts and make money and worry about not making money. Please reconsider

Sincerely ,
Brianna Danek



From: [Karen Johnson](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine sub committee phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 7:53:08 PM

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [Jan Kwiatkowski](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: For Public Comment
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 7:51:14 PM

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

Hello and thank you for taking public comments.

PLEASE make sure that grocery store workers and teachers are in the 1B group.
Also parents of chronically ill special needs children should be in this list.

My 5 y/o grand-daughter has a rare genetic syndrome and is totally dependent on her parents,
One of whom is a grocery store worker. The other parent works sometimes at home and sometimes
has to go in. My grand-daughter needs her parents alive. So does her big brother who has been exposed
several times at school due to teachers having COVID.

Thank you.

Rev. Jan Kwiatkowski, LMFT

From: [Ann Salzmann](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 7:50:19 PM

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

Thank you for publishing the SDMAC Covid-19 vaccine phase 1B recommendations for public comment.

Initial vaccine recommendations identified the groups most vulnerable to Covid 19 exposure, mortality and morbidity. As the phased approach continues, attempts are being made to “drill down” and rank groups based on a particular societal good. In doing so, recommendations have become eligibility and exclusion criteria. Exceptions are being made when extra doses are available, but access to them is not transparent.

Although community spread has left everyone vulnerable, the focus on ranking additional groups in a particular order of importance or value raises the issue of fairness to individuals and those who do not have a collective voice loud enough to be heard. For example, clergy who have direct contact with the ill and grieving families are not on “the list.” Neither are funeral home directors, grocery workers, certain postal service workers, “younger” grandparents (<65) providing before and after school care, family members of front-line workers; the list goes on.

I encourage some considerations that strike a balance between eligibility and exclusion now that the most vulnerable and front line workers have been addressed. While priority should be given to public facing essential workers within broad classes, autonomous non-ranked, non-specified individuals should have some ability to access vaccine in each phase.

Thank you for your work and for inviting public comments to this challenging process.

Ann Salzmann
Sent from my iPad

From: [Chelsea Hartmann](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee, phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 7:49:22 PM

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

I am writing on behalf of the grocery industry in the state of Wisconsin. I strongly believe grocers need to be part of phase 1B. They have been essential throughout the entire pandemic and have been showing up to work every single day to keep food on yours and my table. I am a physician assistant and was fortunate enough to have already received the vaccine. The best way to get this virus under control and get our economy back to normal is to get those who have the most contact with the largest populations receive the vaccine sooner rather than later. Please consider following in other states shoes and move grocery store employees into the phase 1B category.

Sincerely,

Chelsea Hartmann

Sent from my iPhone

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

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.

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

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I ASK YOU RECONSIDER YOUR RECOMMENDATION 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,

John F. Ireland
#310973

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Korey Peterson](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Frontline workers need vaccines too!
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 7:45:30 PM

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

Grocery workers in Wisconsin have been on the frontlines of this pandemic since the beginning. We are essential to people getting food and we interact with hundreds everyday. We are at high risk of catching this dangerous virus. Anti-maskers put us in danger all the time. We're forced to try police these people to protect ourselves and others. Please get the vaccine distributed as soon as possible. Please include us in the second tier of recipients. We've had multiple employees test positive at our grocery stores and it's thanks to our diligent sanitation and distancing efforts that it did not appear further. We are doing a thankless job, far beyond to what any of us signed up for. We've completely reworked how we operate to continue to provide this service to our community. Workers that have borne this burden should be protected. I urge you to consider the some 60,000 grocery workers in Wisconsin and other frontline workers.

From: [Al Robbins](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 7:43:42 PM

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

Dear Wisconsin Vaccine Advisory Board members,

I'm writing to ask you to please vote to keep grocery workers and food industry workers IN the 1B tier of coronavirus vaccine eligibility. On behalf of the service and restaurant industries in Wisconsin, who serve millions of customers a day in our great state, I feel that it is essential that grocery and restaurant workers retain a higher priority of access to the COVID-19 vaccine, simply due to the high potential for infection and transmission via the Wisconsin food system.

This will not only reward the frontline workers who have put their lives on the line for our state to ensure people have access to nutritious and healthy food, but help prevent groceries and restaurants from continuing to function as major points of viral outbreaks and public transmission. As public transmission is the hardest type of viral transmission to trace and control, ensuring that grocery stores and restaurants keep their high-priority status will help reduce the overall spread (and subsequent deaths), and is vital to preventing more damage to our state by the already out-of-control COVID-19 pandemic.

We know that many individuals in our state will refuse the vaccine already, in large numbers, due to misinformation and distrust of vaccines. Because of this, we need to ensure that as many as possible of our major public points of vulnerability serve as firewalls to transmission, rather than amplifiers. This is the only way we will be able to ensure Wisconsin emerges from the pandemic quickly and without additional preventable loss of life.

Hospitals, prisons/jails, grocery stores, restaurants, dorm rooms, assisted living complexes, and any areas of high concentration of people, or a large concentration of high-risk individuals, must be vaccinated first. This is Pandemic Response 101, and our state is failing drastically.

We have had as many deaths in Wisconsin (5,906) due to COVID-related causes as the entire population of Cuba (166 deaths), Vietnam (35 deaths), Venezuela (1,101 deaths), and China (4,635 deaths) put together, which accounts for 263 times as many people as our state (approximately 1.534B people in those four countries, to 5.822M people in Wisconsin). We need to continue to prioritize transmission points to isolate clusters of breakouts so they do not spread rapidly across the state. We cannot remove these vital gathering points from Phase 1B.

When you vote on Phase 1B, vote to include grocery and food industry workers in this category.

Respectfully yours,

Al Robbins
Assistant Manager
Culver's of Green Bay

From: nisse.taunt
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: COVID19 Vaccine Priority Group 1B comment
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 7:42:34 PM

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

Hello,

I would like to know when essential retail workers will be included in the vaccination plans?

I work in a farm store that stayed open during the lock down, as we sell animal feed and other essential items. We work face to face with customers in the aisles, including those who refuse to wear masks (or who wear them improperly), without even the slight benefit of a plexiglass barrier to help enforce distancing. We can't lessen our risk by working from home.

Several of my coworkers have gotten Covid. We do not get paid sick leave, and most of us are not paid a living wage, so people come to work until they are too sick to do so. We cannot afford to stay home - or to get sick.

People rely on essential retail workers (who aren't all in grocery stores) to keep their animals fed, and to supply them with the cleaning and health care products they need to keep themselves healthy. But few people seem to remember (or care) about our health, or our safety. Some even scream unmasked in our faces if we are unable to give them the answer they wanted.

As a group of people who are so important to the running of the state that we stayed open during lock down, why are we never considered important enough to protect?

Thank you.

Nisse Taunt

From: [Braden Hamilton](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee, Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 7:36:59 PM

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

I believe grocery store employees deserve to be in the first phase of workers to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. Not only because they experience probably the most exposure to the general public, other than healthcare workers, but with the handling of most of the goods that are entering peoples' homes, they should be kept as healthy as possible to minimize the spread of disease through a necessary business.

Thank you for your consideration.

Braden Hamilton

From: [Elizabeth Weiland](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 7:33:53 PM

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

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,
Elizabeth Weiland



From: [Brandy Schroeder](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Include grocery workers in phase 1b
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 7:31:47 PM

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

Hello,
I work at Willy Street Grocery Co-op in Madison, WI.

I am urging you to please include grocery workers in covid vaccine phase 1b. We are essential workers, in hazardous working conditions with high exposure to large amounts of people.

Thank you,
Brandy Schroeder

From: [Julia Carian](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee + Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 7:30:25 PM

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I am writing to ask that grocery workers be included in the 1B phase of vaccination eligibility, immediately after medical staff.

Throughout this pandemic, grocery workers have risked their lives (and in some cases lost them) ensuring that we can all eat.

Grocery workers have been continuously on the front lines of essential workers and I believe it is essential that we prioritize their health by ensuring early access to the approved vaccines.

Thank you,
Julia Carian

From: [Patricia TewsRuehle](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 7:28:02 PM

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I believe that the next phase of eligible recipients of the Covid Vaccine should be:

-
- People above 70 years of age
- IRIS & Family Care Recipients
- Assisted Living residents and workers
- Public-facing essential workers
- Non-EMS first responders
- Non-frontline health care person is
- Teachers and childcare workers
- Grocery store workers

While I do believe Prison guards should be vaccinated, PRISONERS SHOULD NOT!!!!

They should be among the LAST to be vaccinated!

Sincerely,

Patti Tews-Ruehle

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Sue mansavage](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Grocery Store employees are Essential!
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 7:25:52 PM

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These folks need to be on the first tier of Covid vaccines. they show up everyday and feed us!

Sincerely,
Susan Mansavage

From: [Kim Pucel](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Cc: kimor58@yahoo.com
Subject: Phase 1b -vaccine subcommittee
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 7:22:16 PM

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I believe grocery workers should be in the phase 1b group. They have kept all of us with ALL of the needed essentials from day 1 of this pandemic. They never shut down and have been working ever since. They come in contact with the highest number of people just behind healthcare workers. They should be high on the list for the vaccine to keep stores fully stocked and available for all of us.

Please keep grocery workers in phase 1b !!

Kim Pucel
New Berlin WI
Waukesha County

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Ron Rymer](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 7:21:55 PM

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To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to see the following groups included in Phase 1B:
Teachers, Grocery Workers, Seniors 65 and older and adults with pre-existing conditions making them a high risk group. Thank you.

Ronald B Rymer



From: [Joe and Ann](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee phase 1b
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 7:20:40 PM

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I think grocery store workers should be included in phase 1b. A lot of us are also in the 65 and older age.

Sent from my iPad