

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.

SIGNED, 

From: [Anita Campo Peralta](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 5:42:25 PM

JANUARY 14, 2021

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I AM AN ESSENTIAL WORKER.

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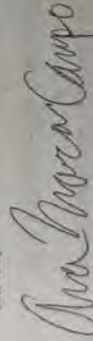
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I AM AN ESSENTIAL WORKER.

SIGNED,



From: [Jonathan W Gordon](#)
To: alliance@waukesha.org; DHS SDMAC
Subject: RE: COVID-19 Vaccine Update: Phase 1B Recommendations Released
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 4:52:47 PM
Attachments: image001.png

Good Evening,

This is Jon Gordon with Carroll University Dining. Thank you for the email, I believe that myself and my staff would be part of phase 1B as we are here year round and feed our large resident campus population.

I am trying to figure out how to get us signed up or get an alert when we can. Perhaps I missed it in the information below but I don't think I did.

Can someone please direct me which way to go on this?

Thank you,

Jon Gordon | Director of Dining Services,
Carroll University Dining In Partnership with Chartwells
m. 608-751-0614 | ChartwellsHigherEd.com



From: Waukesha County Business Alliance <alliance@waukesha.org>
Sent: Thursday, January 14, 2021 4:30 PM
To: Jonathan W Gordon <jwgordon@carrollu.edu>
Subject: COVID-19 Vaccine Update: Phase 1B Recommendations Released



COVID-19 Vaccine Update: Phase 1B Recommendations Released

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) has released its initial recommendations for Phase 1B vaccination, which includes the definition of essential personnel who will be prioritized to access the vaccine. Many businesses may be surprised to see that these recommendations define “essential worker” in a much different way than we saw this spring during the “Safer at Home” order. However, there is still time for businesses to share their concerns and urgent business needs regarding these recommendations with the state, as Phase 1B recommendations are open for public comment through 4:00 p.m. on Monday.

At this time, DHS’s [State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee \(SDMAC\)](#) recommends the [Phase 1B](#) plan include the following population categories:

- People above 70 years of age.
- Congregate living settings including facility staff and residents – (i.e. group homes, homeless shelters, jails, and prisons)
- Public-facing essential workers, specifically the categories listed below:
 - Non-EMS first responders, including police and firefighters
 - Educators and childcare (i.e. Daycare, preschool, K-12, and higher education)
 - Non-frontline healthcare workers
 - Mink husbandry workers

The Alliance will submit public comments on behalf of our members to advocate for prioritizing essential critical infrastructure workers as the state moves through the vaccine process. If you believe the SDMAC definitions require reevaluation and/or leave significant gaps in workforce vaccination opportunities, we strongly encourage you to submit public comment to the SDMAC before January 18, 2021.

Public comments regarding the proposed Phase 1B vaccine distribution plan may be submitted to: DHSSDMAC@dhs.wisconsin.gov. Please be sure to include “vaccine subcommittee” and “Phase 1B” in the email subject line. The public comment period will close at **4:00 p.m. on Monday, January 18, 2021**.

Waukesha County is preparing to advance to Phase 1B once the State opens vaccination opportunities to these individuals. The County is working in collaboration with area healthcare systems and other vaccine providers to develop a decentralized, multi-location vaccine distribution system to provide timely and efficient access to vaccination as the DHS phased rollout continues.

Some highlights of the current Phase 1A efforts include the following:

- Waukesha County is in the final stages of authorization to become a COVID-19 vaccination provider.
- Waukesha County has coordinated with a consortium of fire departments in the County to develop and deploy a vaccine distribution system. The consortium is currently being utilized to vaccinate Phase 1A healthcare workers such as EMS and is further preparing to vaccinate other fire personnel and law enforcement.
- Waukesha County, in partnership with Ascension Healthcare, has launched the timely vaccination of EMS personnel.
- In partnership with ProHealth Care, Waukesha County has launched the timely vaccination of law enforcement personnel.
- Waukesha County has also partnered with ProHealth Care to vaccinate nurses and health room aides that serve in schools.
- Waukesha County is working with the Wisconsin Dental Association to connect dental professionals with vaccine providers, including a major pharmacy system.
- Waukesha County continues to survey unaffiliated healthcare providers to determine their intent to become registered vaccinators or to determine the vaccine service need in this category.

Waukesha County is committed to keeping our business partners updated and informed of the status of COVID-19, testing, and vaccination. Waukesha County and the Waukesha County Business Alliance will continue to bring our business leaders the information they need to keep our economy safe and flourishing.

Webinar: Waukesha County COVID Vaccine Rollout What Employers Need to Know

To address many questions regarding vaccines, both the Waukesha County-specific distribution as well as employer best practices and recommendations, the Alliance will host a complimentary webinar on Monday, February 1.

Speakers:

- Waukesha County Executive Paul Farrow
- Benjamin Jones - Waukesha County Health Officer
- Chuck Palmer, Partner, Sub-Practice Leader, Workplace Safety & Health, Michael Best

[Monday, February 1 | 11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. | Register Here](#)

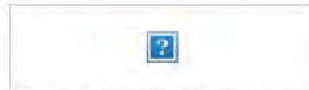


Waukesha County Business Alliance | 2717 N. Grandview Blvd., Suite 300, Waukesha, WI 53188

[Unsubscribe jwgordon@carrollu.edu](mailto:jwgordon@carrollu.edu)

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From: [Ted Balistreri](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee, Phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 4:45:03 PM

Dear Vaccine Subcommittee Members,

I write to you today as one of the co-owners of Sendik's Food Markets. We are a third generation family grocer operating in the state of Wisconsin since 1926. We are celebrating our 95th anniversary as a company later this year. We have 17 store locations and a distribution center operating in four state counties in the Milwaukee Metropolitan area.

At any given time, we employ approximately 2,000 people ranging in age from 15 to over 80 years. Nearly all of our positions are filled by a diverse group of hourly wage workers. Although many of the positions are considered unskilled, the dedication and work ethic of our team members is humbling. We are the cashiers, baggers, stockers, clerks, order fillers, delivery drivers, cooks, meat cutters, and fishmongers, among other positions.

On average, we serve a minimum of 150,000 customers per week. Everyone is welcome in our stores and our customer base is diverse. They rely on us for the food they feed themselves and their families.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, our team of employees has been on the front lines providing an essential service to our community. We have been designated by the State of Wisconsin as an essential business. Due to the nature of our business, we are unable to work remotely. We are face to face daily with the public.

Despite our efforts to keep our customers and employees safe, we have experienced times where over 10% of our workforce has been excused from work for COVID-19 related reasons (tested positive, being tested, quarantined because of close contact, immune compromised, or simply afraid to come to work). This has put a tremendous strain on our workforce and caused us to alter the way we run our day to day operations.

Through all of this, our team members have worked tirelessly under extraordinary pressure and at considerable personal risk to themselves. They have done this because they recognize the important nature of their work, providing food to the community, and they have taken a great deal of pride that what they do is essential. They have been called "heroes" for their work.

In their guidance for COVID-19 vaccine distribution, the CDC specifically called out "grocery workers" as essential and part of the recommended Phase 1B distribution. I am asking this committee to do the same.

This committee should include grocery workers in its recommendation to the Wisconsin Department of Health Services for Phase 1B distribution of the COVID-19 vaccine.

Thank you,

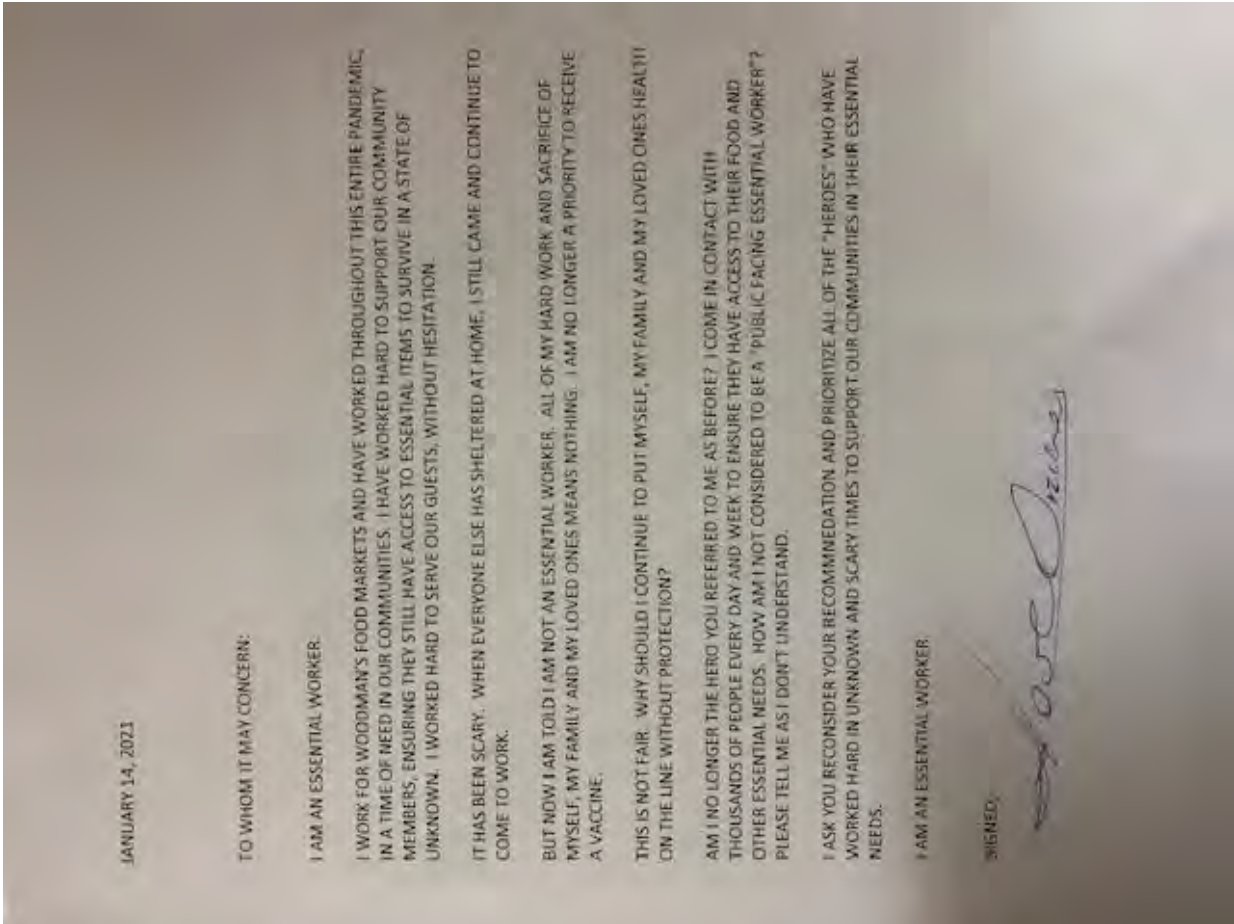
Ted Balistreri
Sendik's Food Markets

7225 W. Marcia Road
Milwaukee, WI 53223
414-716-5500

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Celebrating 95 years of business!

From: [Jose Orzuna](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 4:29:14 PM



Sent from my iPhone

From: [Cates, Lisa A - DHS](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: FW: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 4:28:18 PM

From: Nancy Van Caster <Nancy.VanCaster.404816016@p2a.co>
Sent: Thursday, January 14, 2021 4:02 PM
To: Palm, Andrea J - DHS <andrea.palm@dhs.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B

Dear Committee Member,

Please reconsider where you assign grocery workers in the line of Covid vaccine recipients.

While some workers have limited contact because their stores are able to provide curbside pickup, not all stores can handle that. Smaller, independent stores are struggling to stay afloat and their workers deserve a chance at the protection provided by the vaccine.

It is confusing to hear that only Wisconsin is disregarding the CDC recommendations to prioritize food employees.

Please reconsider your guidelines to protect both our food supply and the workers who serve us.

Thank you

Sincerely,
Nancy Van Caster



From: [Cates, Lisa A - DHS](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: FW: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 4:27:55 PM

From: Joan Shrout <Joan.Shrout.404819004@p2a.co>
Sent: Thursday, January 14, 2021 4:28 PM
To: Palm, Andrea J - DHS <andrea.palm@dhs.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. As someone who is immuno-suppressed due to a medication I receive, I am keenly aware of the risks that people working in grocery stores are taking to be there and provide all of us with necessary and ESSENTIAL supplies -- like food! Of course these are essential workers. Kindly re-consider and provide a level of safety afforded by the vaccine to them!

Sincerely ,
Joan Shrout



From: [Cates, Lisa A - DHS](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: FW: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 4:27:33 PM

From: Rosemary Bonk <Rosemary.Bonk.404816467@p2a.co>
Sent: Thursday, January 14, 2021 4:06 PM
To: Palm, Andrea J - DHS <andrea.palm@dhs.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B

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. With the number of people they come in contact with, this would be wrong to put them down the list with others.

Sincerely ,
Rosemary Bonk



From: [RACHEL ROBERSON](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: COVID 19 Vaccination Plan
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 4:09:36 PM

January 14, 2021

Dear 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 childcare 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,

Rachel Roberson

From: [Nancy Van Caster](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 4:01:42 PM

Dear Committee Member,

Please reconsider where you assign grocery workers in the line of Covid vaccine recipients.

While some workers have limited contact because their stores are able to provide curbside pickup, not all stores can handle that. Smaller, independent stores are struggling to stay afloat and their workers deserve a chance at the protection provided by the vaccine.

It is confusing to hear that only Wisconsin is disregarding the CDC recommendations to prioritize food employees.

Please reconsider your guidelines to protect both our food supply and the workers who serve us.

Thank you

Sincerely ,
Nancy Van Caster
W233N7771 Chestnut Ct
Sussex, WI 53089

From: [Eddie Roberson](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Covid-19 Vaccination Plan
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 4:00:21 PM
Attachments: image001.png

January 14, 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,

Eddie Roberson

Certco Business Consultant

Certco, Inc.

Cell: 608-228-7675



5321 Verona Road, Madison, Wisconsin 53711-6050

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From: [Susan Gubner](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 3:40:44 PM

Hi,

Just wondered why grocery store workers were not included in most prioritized essential workers for vaccine in Wisconsin. I keep reading articles on how I should spend only 5 minutes in the grocery store or get my groceries at the curbside but my son works in a crowded grocery store where there is no possible way to social distance for 8 hours a day. My son wears a good mask but not every customer does.

When do you think grocery store workers will get a vaccine- in February or March?

Susan Gubner

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone
Get [Outlook for Android](#)

From: [Brian Ricci](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: 45 year old male grocery worker
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 3:34:13 PM

Hi,

I believe grocery workers should be included in the next phase. We are on the front lines around both people who are masked and unmasked but most dont follow social distancing. I just think the amount time(8 to 10 hrs a day) around of possible exposures should put next on the list. Vaccinating This group would definitely slow the spread of disease as I have known quite a few colleagues who have gotten quite ill & and a few hospitalized with Covid.

Thanks for recognizing and understanding our input & concerns.

Brian

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Cates, Lisa A - DHS](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: FW: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 3:24:39 PM

From: Norm Haberl <Norm.Haberl.404593447@p2a.co>
Sent: Thursday, January 14, 2021 9:52 AM
To: Palm, Andrea J - DHS <andrea.palm@dhs.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B

Dear Committee Member,

It is critically important that we maintain the food supply chain and vaccinating frontline grocery workers and food distribution/transportation workers should not be delayed per the State Medical Disaster Advisory Committee (SMDAC) recommendation. Grocery wholesalers and retailers have been struggling with labor shortages since the pandemic began to ensure Wisconsin customers and communities receive the essential food, medicine and household products they need. Please DO NOT delay their vaccinations. Including these essential frontline heroes with the general public will create further vaccination delays.

Sincerely ,
Norm Haberl



From: [Cates, Lisa A - DHS](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: FW: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 3:24:16 PM

From: Kimberly Kockler <Kimberly.Kockler.404593519@p2a.co>
Sent: Thursday, January 14, 2021 9:54 AM
To: Palm, Andrea J - DHS <andrea.palm@dhs.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. Our grocery workers play an essential role in ensuring that the public is able to shop for food and necessary supplies.

Sincerely,
Kimberly Kockler



From: [Cates, Lisa A - DHS](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: FW: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 3:23:48 PM

From: Charles Kosel <Charles.Kosel.404611167@p2a.co>
Sent: Thursday, January 14, 2021 10:38 AM
To: Palm, Andrea J - DHS <andrea.palm@dhs.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B

Dear Committee Member,

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

As I travel the state and work the stores that I call on I can tell you that these workers are in constant contact with customers, their grocery carts, the products that they touch as well as all the product that comes into the stores.

It would be a travesty if grocery workers are dropped below the 1B after all they have done to keep the people of Wisconsin supplied with food and supplies.

Wisconsin would be the only state in the country to disregard CDC recommendations and downgrade food employees.

Please reconsider and make this a priority.

Sincerely,
Charles Kosel

 |

From: [Alex Okray](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee - Phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 3:20:58 PM
Attachments: Okray Farms Ltr - SDMAC - Phase 1b Vaccine - Jan 14 2021.pdf

Please see attached comments.

Thank you

Alex Okray
Okray Family Farms
Office: 715-344-2526
Cell: 715-340-2447
PO Box 489
Plover, WI 54467





3001 River Drive
PO Box 489
Plover, WI 54467
715-344-2526
www.okray.com

January 14, 2021

VIA EMAIL ONLY TO DHSSDMAC@dhs.wisconsin.gov

Secretary-Designee Andrea Palm
Wisconsin Department of Health Services

State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee
Vaccine Subcommittee Members

RE: **Farm Workers – Phase 1b COVID Vaccination Plan**

Dear Secretary-Designee Palm and Members of the SDMAC Vaccine Distribution Subcommittee:

My name is Alex Okray and I am a family potato and vegetable farmer from Plover, Wisconsin.

Our family farm, Okray Family Farms, produces over 1800 acres of potatoes and over 5900 acres of sweet corn, green beans, peas, soybeans and maize annually in Wisconsin. We employ 40 farm workers in Central Wisconsin. **I am writing to you to ask that you include Wisconsin farmers and farm workers in Phase 1b of the Wisconsin COVID-19 vaccination plan.**

Our employees are an essential and critical part of the food supply chain in Wisconsin and the United States. Throughout the pandemic, our workers have been working. From day one, our employees have been showing up to work (despite the risks) and putting in overtime to make sure shelves are stocked across the state. There is no work-from-home or remote working option for growing, packing and shipping food to feed our citizens.

In addition, our farm workers have no financial ability to “stay home from work” for any period of time. Their ability to come to work is essential to feeding their own families. Throughout last year, a number of our employees had to miss work due to a COVID exposure in the workplace. Many of these employees could easily have to miss work again this year, and the “Family’s First Coronavirus Response Act” does NOT give additional time off credits in 2021 for anyone who used them in 2020.

Finally, the nature of our farming operation, in particular our potato packing operation, requires our workers to be in close proximity to each other. Our farm has worked to protect our workers as much as possible from COVID-19 exposure by employing all available and workable mitigation measures and personal protective equipment for our workforce. But there is no question that vaccinating our workforce is needed immediately in order to ensure stability in the food production and the food supply chain.

I respect the current recommendations identifying who should receive the vaccine moving forward. However, with the announcement from the federal government indicating that they will be releasing more vaccine doses, as well as President-elect Biden’s plan to release more doses, I am asking that you consider adding agriculture employees to your recommendations.

Thank you for considering this request.
Alex Okray
Okray Family Farms

From: [Cates, Lisa A - DHS](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: FW: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 3:18:53 PM

From: Lynn Reesman <Lynn.Reesman.404776741@p2a.co>
Sent: Thursday, January 14, 2021 2:34 PM
To: Palm, Andrea J - DHS <andrea.palm@dhs.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B

Dear Committee Member,

I am very discouraged that my son and daughter in law who are grocery workers are not valued enough to put them at the front of the line for COVID 19 vaccine according to recently published plans. I am worried every day about their exposure to the virus despite the efforts their store is making to keep them healthy. I am worried that food insecurity, already a problem for so many will be exacerbated should you not reconsider this plan. As a 70 year old myself, I would gladly give me vaccine to these valiant workers who keep us fed. Please reconsider! Lynn Ann Reesman

Sincerely ,
Lynn Reesman

[REDACTED]

From: [Cates, Lisa A - DHS](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: FW: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 3:17:27 PM

From: Mary Carian <Mary.Carian.404795669@p2a.co>
Sent: Thursday, January 14, 2021 2:50 PM
To: Palm, Andrea J - DHS <andrea.palm@dhs.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B

Dear Committee Member,

Grocery store workers are essential and exposed to many people. Please make them priority for vaccines.

Sincerely ,
Mary Carian

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

From: [Cates, Lisa A - DHS](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: FW: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 3:17:03 PM

From: Jenann Olsen <Jenann.Olsen.404797199@p2a.co>
Sent: Thursday, January 14, 2021 2:53 PM
To: Palm, Andrea J - DHS <andrea.palm@dhs.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B

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. Food supply employees should be included in Tier 1b...as recommended by the CDC.

Sincerely ,
Jenann Olsen



From: [Cates, Lisa A - DHS](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: FW: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 3:16:31 PM

From: Catherine Doyle <Catherine.Doyle.404803371@p2a.co>
Sent: Thursday, January 14, 2021 3:16 PM
To: Palm, Andrea J - DHS <andrea.palm@dhs.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B

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.

From the very beginning grocery workers have continued to show up every day to make sure that essential supplies and fresh food are still readily available for the general public. They should be prioritized for vaccines ahead of the general public as they continue to provide an essential service to us all.

Sincerely ,
Catherine Doyle

 |

From: [Catherine Doyle](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 3:16:13 PM

Dear Committee Member,

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

From the very beginning grocery workers have continued to show up every day to make sure that essential supplies and fresh food are still readily available for the general public. They should be prioritized for vaccines ahead of the general public as they continue to provide an essential service to us all.

Sincerely ,
Catherine Doyle



From: [Cates, Lisa A - DHS](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: FW: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 3:15:15 PM

From: Joy Reesman <Joy.Reesman.404799836@p2a.co>
Sent: Thursday, January 14, 2021 3:04 PM
To: Palm, Andrea J - DHS <andrea.palm@dhs.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B

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.

These workers have continued to work throughout the pandemic to ensure the people of Wisconsin have had access to food and other essential supplies.

They are at a huge risk as (despite the science) so many people still refuse to wear masks. These workers are powerless to do anything about it in many cases, if their employers do not support and/or enforce wearing masks.

Unlike many frontline workers, those who work in the grocery industry are often not, or barely, making a cost of living wage to begin with, and if they become sick may not have adequate benefits to take care of them during this time.

Protecting these workers alone should be enough to prioritize them in Tier 1b for vaccinations. But on top of that, there is a huge risk of them contracting COVID and being asymptomatic or having mild cold-like symptoms and then coming in contact with hundreds or potentially thousands of people each day.

Please reconsider your position/prioritization.

Sincerely,
Joy Reesman



From: [Shorty Smith](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Essential workers vaccinations
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 2:55:12 PM

Good afternoon-

I am writing to you with serious concerns regarding your decision to exclude the grocery industry employees as essential workers. I hope you will recall the situation we all found ourselves in just a year ago wherein the grocery industry found itself sieged upon when everything seemed so uncertain. This reaction alone should show you just how essential ALL grocery employees are. I truly believe that if you were to ask the average ordinary Wisconsin citizen what they consider to be essential services you would discover that having the ability to purchase fresh foods for the family would be at the top of their lists. Keeping employees healthy has been a particularly difficult task over the past several months and I think you would agree that it is crucial to keeping our doors open.

Beyond the necessity of keeping the grocery industry employees healthy and at their post to serve our citizens you should also consider the impact this decision will have on the individuals that have been showing up to work every day despite the risk to their health. So many of the employees in my store alone have gone months without seeing or being able to hug their loved ones because they understand the dangers of potentially exposing them to this deadly virus. We all show up every day even though we know that we could potentially be bringing it home with us. The mental stress of knowing you must do your part to serve your community but also understanding the risks to your significant others and your children is real. I see it and I live every day. I personally am not allowed to go to my daughter's home to see my 1 year old granddaughter as I am unable to quarantine myself for any length of time.

Think about the impact it would have on you personally if this industry was forced to shut down due to a lack of personnel. Let me tell you, it has been very difficult to keep employees because they are fearful for their health and all that they are giving up to show up. Employees that are dedicated and remain on staff frequently find themselves in a situation where they have to miss work to quarantine in an effort to keep those around them from being exposed. Those around them include their loved ones as well as coworkers AND their customers. Can you think of any industry that regularly comes into contact with as many people on a daily basis as the grocery industry does? The store that I work in serves, on average 50,000, customers a week. That's a lot of potential exposure, for everyone! Our employees have been braving this entire situation for nearly a year! We have been praying for and waiting for the vaccine! You could feel the collective sigh of relief when the vaccine was finally authorized and we BELIEVED we would have access quickly. Now you want to take that away just as we were beginning to feel like we would get some relief from constant worry. It just isn't right!

As a final thought consider this:

How many people does the average police officer come into contact with on an average day?

A doctor?

Nurse?

Firefighter?
Prisoners?
Governor Evers?

6500 people travel through our store every day.... The potential exposure is real.

I understand that these professions are critical for emergency services and would not want to take away from that. I am just asking you to consider that they are NOT the only people who should be considered critical. Eating is necessary to sustain life!

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to getting word of your immediate reversal of this decision.

Sincerely,



Shorty

Store Manager
Janesville, WI 53546
Woodman's Food Markets
Phone: 608 754-3373
FAX: 608 754-8199
shorty.smith@woodmans-food.com

From: [Jenann Olsen](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 2:53:27 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. Food supply employees should be included in Tier 1b...as recommended by the CDC.

Sincerely ,
Jenann Olsen



From: [Mary Carian](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 2:50:12 PM

Dear Committee Member,

Grocery store workers are essential and exposed to many people. Please make them priority for vaccines.

Sincerely,
Mary Carian



From: [Lynn Reesman](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 2:33:52 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I am very discouraged that my son and daughter in law who are grocery workers are not valued enough to put them at the front of the line for COVID 19 vaccine according to recently published plans. I am worried every day about their exposure to the virus despite the efforts their store is making to keep them healthy. I am worried that food insecurity, already a problem for so many will be exacerbated should you not reconsider this plan. As a 70 year old myself, I would gladly give me vaccine to these valiant workers who keep us fed. Please reconsider! Lynn Ann Reesman

Sincerely ,
Lynn Reesman



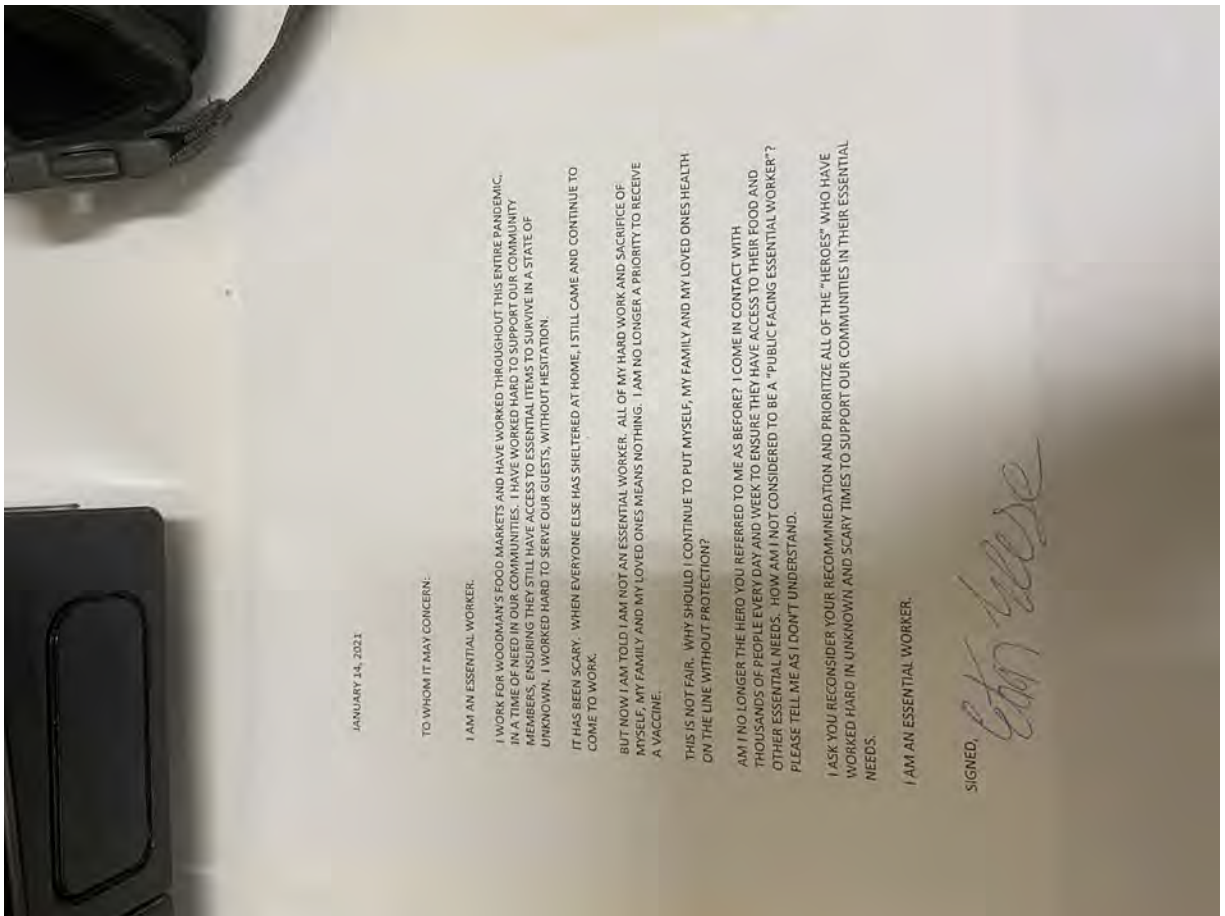
From: [Matthew Wilhm](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Roll out of COVID vaccine
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 2:32:45 PM

I'm not trying to be a jerk here as I believe we all should be vaccinated but why teachers now? If in contact with kids, fine. But many are not in contact with kids and there's no plan to restart school statewide. Farmers, Farm workers, food processing, meat and dairy processors are much more needed, essential workers and in the frontlines at risk and in harms way and they're working to feed us! They sacrifice every day to bring us food and feed us. Where is the common sense?

Sincerely,
Matthew Wilhm



From: [Ethan Weese](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee phase 1b
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 2:23:36 PM



JANUARY 14, 2021

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I AM AN ESSENTIAL WORKER.

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

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

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

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

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

I ASK YOU RECONSIDER YOUR 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,



Nicole Skinnete

From: [Brandon Berg](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 2:14:24 PM

JANUARY 14, 2021

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I AM AN ESSENTIAL WORKER.

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

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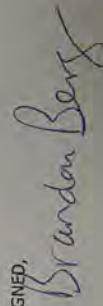
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I ASK YOU RECONSIDER YOUR RECOMMENDATION AND PRIORITIZE ALL OF THE "HEROES" WHO HAVE WORKED HARD IN UNKNOWN AND SCARY TIMES TO SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITIES IN THEIR ESSENTIAL NEEDS.

I AM AN ESSENTIAL WORKER.

SIGNED,



From: [Kent Seeker](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Plan
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 2:03:36 PM

January 14, 2021

State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee (SDMAC)

Vaccine Subcommittee

Via email: dhssdmac@dhs.wisconsin.gov

Dear Vaccine Subcommittee Members,

I write today as the spouse 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,
Kent R. Seeker

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [Cates, Lisa A - DHS](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: FW: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 1:02:47 PM

From: Nicole Perry <Nicole.Perry.404693437@p2a.co>
Sent: Thursday, January 14, 2021 12:48 PM
To: Palm, Andrea J - DHS <andrea.palm@dhs.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B

Dear Committee Member,

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

Our employees are consistently being yelled at and dealing with angry and annoyed customers due to mask mandates. They still feel unsafe after 9 months of dealing with COVID because some customers just do not care. I think a vaccine would greatly boost morale as well as safety and peace of mind in the workplace. My employees don't have the option to work from home. The country needs grocery stores and we need healthy employees.

We have a small store in a small town. It has been extremely stressful knowing that if a few key employees were to get the virus out small town we could have to close for awhile.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Nicole Perry

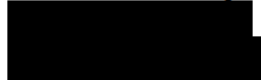
 |

From: [Graham Courtney](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 12:54:34 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing on behalf of our ESSENTIAL grocery store employees. These people deserve access to the COVID 19 vaccine in Phase 1b. These wonderful folks have been on the front lines serving our communities by providing food and critical goods and services 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, since this pandemic began. The customer count in our grocery store is over 11,000 people per week. As soon as the pandemic struck we immediately installed and provided all suggested and available PPE but we have still had significant COVID 19 outbreaks within our team. These people need and deserve your help now. Its simply not right to allow them to continue to have perhaps the greatest exposure of any population without timely access to the vaccine. I implore you to do your part in showing them the respect they deserve and your appreciation for their great sacrifice by including them in the next group eligible for COVID 19 vaccination. Thank you very much for your time and consideration

Sincerely ,
Graham Courtney



From: [Jessica Salmons](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee phase 1 B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 12:53:40 PM

JANUARY 14, 2021

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I AM AN ESSENTIAL WORKER.

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

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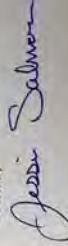
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I ASK YOU RECONSIDER YOUR RECOMMENDATION AND PRIORITIZE ALL OF THE "HEROES" WHO HAVE WORKED HARD IN UNKNOWN AND SCARY TIMES TO SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITIES IN THEIR ESSENTIAL NEEDS.

I AM AN ESSENTIAL WORKER.

SIGNED,



From: [Nicole Perry](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 12:48:28 PM

Dear Committee Member,

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

Our employees are consistently being yelled at and dealing with angry and annoyed customers due to mask mandates. They still feel unsafe after 9 months of dealing with COVID because some customers just do not care. I think a vaccine would greatly boost morale as well as safety and peace of mind in the workplace. My employees don't have the option to work from home. The country needs grocery stores and we need healthy employees.

We have a small store in a small town. It has been extremely stressful knowing that if a few key employees were to get the virus out small town we could have to close for awhile.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely ,
Nicole Perry



From: [Jason Roberts](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccination rollout
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 12:47:13 PM
Attachments: image001.png

To whom it may concern:

I am the Store Manager of the Woodman's Food Market in Menomonee Falls, WI. This is just one of 18, soon to be 19 stores in the company. We have over 240 employees at this location alone and over 5000 company-wide. Me saying that 2020 was a figurative nightmare is an understatement. The volume of traffic and business we did was record breaking. Each and every one of my employees put their heart and soul into keeping food on the shelves and in customer's shopping carts. Those customers, on average 6000+ a day, were and are so grateful for what not only Woodmans but other retailers have provided. It was brought to my attention that the possibility of essential, grocery store employees may not have access to the COVID-19 vaccination as soon as we thought. Its sounds as though we are soon to be considered non-essential. This, to say the least, is disheartening. When we finally heard news of vaccines being rolled out it was a sigh of relief because we were in one of the top tiers to which it would be made available. Our employees coming to work every day is challenging for so many reasons because of the pandemic. I won't go into wearing masks, having to social distance or not always having enough paper products for customers. It's the **health and safety** of not only my team but our customers. This is the concern. The feeling that we are suddenly non-essential is a tough pill to swallow. When businesses were closing their doors and shutting down, hospitals and grocery stores were open to all. This is because we are needed in the community. Pushing grocery stores out of this priority tier will only make things worse despite our constant efforts to slow the spread. I say again, over 6000 people a day walk through these doors. Having our employees vaccinated would slow the spread. I hope this idea is reconsidered.

Thank you,



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Please consider the environment before printing this email.

From: [Cates, Lisa A - DHS](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: FW: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 12:38:49 PM

From: Melissa Keller <Melissa.Keller.404559409@p2a.co>
Sent: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 5:31 PM
To: Palm, Andrea J - DHS <andrea.palm@dhs.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B

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 are too on the frontlines as we assist customers and their families. A lot of us fear getting this viruses for many of us have medical issues. I for one have a heart condition and I also have Asthma. I also care for a 72 yr old mother, whom I afraid of her getting this.

Sincerely,
Melissa Keller

 |

From: [Cates, Lisa A - DHS](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: FW: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 12:31:04 PM

From: David Baxter <David.Baxter.404680125@p2a.co>
Sent: Thursday, January 14, 2021 12:26 PM
To: Palm, Andrea J - DHS <andrea.palm@dhs.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to make grocery workers essential worker. To be put up on the list.

Sincerely,
David Baxter

 |

From: [Judy Marcin](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccines
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 12:29:47 PM

Evers HealthTeam,

You are definitely off the mark on who gets the vaccine. Along with Seniors , it also should include those who suffer from serious health conditions.

I agree that teachers who are in the classroom teaching deserve the vaccine...they have shown themselves to put their students first. Teachers that have openly said that they refuse to go into the classrooms, or those teachers whose unions have decided not to open classrooms, deserve no more than what others in their age bracket allows them.

These people rate lower than those that have helped the community during these stressful times: people like those working in grocery stores, or drugstores and how about delivery personnel that brought the supplies to us.

As for the idea of having prisoners vaccinated before others in the community is so far fetched it's hard to digest. These people broke the law willingly and they were sentenced to serve punishment for their crimes....whose fault is it that they are not practicing hygiene methods or wearing masks to protect themselves.. how in the world would they

Deserve more consideration than the law bidding tax payer.

Oh yes, a note here....we are one of the last states to have the vaccine available to the public

Talk about being indecisive, taking no action, and being unorganized...our governor did not have the experience, knowledge or leadership. Those involved in the distribution

Decisions lacked any of the qualities that were needed thru the past year in aiding and helping Wisconsin population.

Judith Marcin

Madison wi

Sent from my iPad

From: [Cates, Lisa A - DHS](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: FW: Request for vaccinations for frontline, essential hunger-relief workers
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 12:28:58 PM

From: Stephanie Jung Dorfman <sdorfman@feedingwi.org>
Sent: Thursday, January 14, 2021 8:55 AM
To: Williams, TR - GOV <tr.williams@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: phabeck <phabeck@feedingamericawi.org>; Palm, Andrea J - DHS <andrea.palm@dhs.wisconsin.gov>; Olson, Lisa A - DHS <lisaa.olson@dhs.wisconsin.gov>; Pennoyer, Kara - GOV <kara.pennoyer1@wisconsin.gov>; Kuhn, Jamie S - GOV <jamie.kuhn@wisconsin.gov>; DHS SDMAC <DHSSDMAC@dhs.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Request for vaccinations for frontline, essential hunger-relief workers

Good morning T.R.,

Thank you for explaining the process for decision making that is happening for ongoing vaccine allocation. I will share this information with the leaders of our food banks and we will provide additional comments before the deadline. Please let me know if we can provide any additional information that might be helpful to you or the SDMAC.

We appreciate your support!

Take care,
Stephanie

On Thu, Jan 14, 2021 at 12:40 AM Williams, TR - GOV <tr.williams@wisconsin.gov> wrote:

Greetings Stephanie,

I hope this message finds you and your family safe, healthy and well.

I am emailing to confirm that our office successfully received your email and letter on behalf of Feeding Wisconsin and the hunger-relief network. I have re- attached your letter to this email, for reference.

We understand the request for the prioritization of those in the hunger-relief network in the COVID-19 vaccine distribution, as frontline , essential workers in phase 1b.

Your concerns are important. I have shared your message and the information included in your message with the appropriate people on our team, including directly with the State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee (SDMAC).

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) is still receiving guidance and recommendations on matters of vaccine prioritization. DHS will be relying on guidance from the Advisory Committee of Immunization Practices (ACIP) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

In addition, the [State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee \(SDMAC\)](#) is actively working on [recommendations](#) to the DHS Secretary and the Governor on vaccine allocation for Wisconsin. All of the meetings of the SDMAC are open to the public, and posted on the [public meetings website](#) as well as on the [DHS website](#).

The SDMAC Vaccine Distribution Subcommittee has advanced their recommendations for COVID-19 Vaccine Priority Group 1b. You can review the document [here](#), and submit comment to DHSSDMAC@dhs.wisconsin.gov.

The **public comment period will remain open until 4:00PM on Monday, January 18**. The subcommittee will meet again on Wednesday, January 20th to review & address public comment, and ultimately advance the recommendation to the full SDMAC on Thursday, January 21st.

The [Wisconsin Department of Health Services COVID-19: Vaccine](#) website has additional information and updates regarding the vaccine and additional [information for vaccinators](#) (including details of the enrollment process). Additional resources include:

- DHS [COVID-19 vaccination plan](#)
- DHS' [executive summary of the vaccination plan](#)

Thank you for reaching out to our office, for your service, leadership and advocacy on behalf of Wisconsinites.

We truly believe that we will get through this together.

Best,

~ T.R. Williams, J.D ~

Deputy Director of External Affairs

Office of Governor Tony Evers

tr.williams@wisconsin.gov | w: 608-266-7861 | c: 608-279-0541

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From: Stephanie Jung Dorfman <sdorfman@feedingwi.org>

Sent: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 7:30 AM

To: Palm, Andrea J - DHS <andrea.palm@dhs.wisconsin.gov>; Pennoyer, Kara - GOV <kara.pennoyer1@wisconsin.gov>; Williams, TR - GOV <tr.williams@wisconsin.gov>

Cc: GOV Info <govinfo@wisconsin.gov>; phabeck <phabeck@feedingamericawi.org>

Subject: Request for vaccinations for frontline, essential hunger-relief workers

Dear Secretary-Designee Palm, Ms. Pennoyer, and Ms. Williams,

Thank you for all you're doing to keep us safe and informed about COVID-19 in Wisconsin.

I am writing to respectfully request that as you and others make decisions about the

vaccination schedule, that frontline, essential workers who are part of the hunger-relief network be included in the first-priority group of Phase 1B of vaccinations. Please find a letter with additional information attached. This letter was submitted on the Governor's website in addition to being sent to you directly.

Thank you for your ongoing support and partnership to ensure that all Wisconsinites have access to the food and benefits they need to work, learn, play and live healthy lives.

In service,
Stephanie

--



Stephanie Jung Dorfman

Executive Director

Feeding Wisconsin

she/her/hers

Mobile: 608-960-4517

SDorfman@FeedingWI.org

FeedingWI.org

2850 Dairy Drive

Madison, WI 53718

Together, we are leading the way Forward to a healthy and hunger-free Wisconsin!

From: [Jeff Feldt](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1B Vaccine Subcommittee Comments – Kaukauna Utilities
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 12:28:58 PM

Dear Members of the SDMAC Vaccine Subcommittee,

I appreciate the complexity of the decisions surrounding COVID-19 vaccine prioritization and recognize the efforts of the Subcommittee to ensure an equitable distribution. I submit these comments to advocate for adding municipal utility employees to Phase 1b of the vaccine distribution rollout.

Kaukauna Utilities provides critical electric and water services in our community and surrounding villages and towns. As essential frontline utility workers, we are highly specialized, provide necessary services and must be available to work 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

We are not able to work from home and have gone to extreme lengths to keep employees safe and ensure continuity of the critical services we provide the community. However, our daily exposure to customers and the nature of our duties - which often requires that we work in teams - makes vaccination highly important to maintain the utility system.

Exposure to the virus by our essential workers could be catastrophic, as it has the potential to disrupt community services such as electricity, water, and wastewater. This could affect spaces such as homes, schools, daycare facilities, manufacturing companies, restaurants, grocery stores, medical clinics and government facilities. I would like to highlight the fact that this list potentially includes facilities that distribute the vaccine and keep it at the low temperature necessary for safe storage.

We respectfully request that municipal electric, water, and wastewater workers be eligible to receive the vaccine in Phase 1b.

Your consideration of this urgent request is appreciated. Thank you for the time and effort you are spending to ensure Wisconsin is well prepared to vaccinate efficiently and effectively.

Sincerely,

Jeffery W. Feldt, PE
General Manager
Kaukauna Utilities
920-462-0218
jfeldt@ku-wi.org

Customer Driven, Community Minded, Environmentally Responsible

From: [Cates, Lisa A - DHS](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: FW: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 12:27:50 PM

From: Lisa Nordmeyer <Lisa.Nordmeyer.404611455@p2a.co>
Sent: Thursday, January 14, 2021 10:41 AM
To: Palm, Andrea J - DHS <andrea.palm@dhs.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize for COVID-19 vaccinations. I have worked in the grocery industry since 1987, never to have seen such a year as we have been through. Coming to work everyday being glad I am here to serve everyone in need, but would hope that it meant something when it comes to getting the vaccinations. I was happy to hear that we were on the 1b level, but now the changing of rankings is very disheartening. Please reconsider us to be the essential employees you consider us and leave the grocery workers in level 1b.

Sincerely ,
Lisa Nordmeyer

 |

From: [David Baxter](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 12:26:31 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to make grocery workers essential worker. To be put up on the list.

Sincerely,
David Baxter



From: [Cates, Lisa A - DHS](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: FW: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 12:26:14 PM

From: curt schmidt <curt.schmidt.196873358@p2a.co>
Sent: Thursday, January 14, 2021 11:22 AM
To: Palm, Andrea J - DHS <andrea.palm@dhs.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B

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. Any questions please call me at 920-387-3220

Sincerely ,
curt schmidt



From: [Cates, Lisa A - DHS](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: FW: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 12:24:32 PM

From: Dennis Host <Dennis.Host.404631985@p2a.co>
Sent: Thursday, January 14, 2021 11:50 AM
To: Palm, Andrea J - DHS <andrea.palm@dhs.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B

Dear Committee Member,

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

As a part-business owner who has had a significant number of our ESSENTIAL employees working on the front lines every single day since the pandemic started to serve guests in our grocery stores and ensure they have necessary food essentials available to them, it would be a SIGNIFICANT dismissal of their essential service during this time.

We have had to work tirelessly to keep our employees safe as well as provide a safe shopping experience in our stores for our customers. We implemented mandatory mask wearing for our employees in early April. And we dealt with significant push-back by many customers when we implemented it for customers later on. Yet, we have remained steadfast in our commitment to serve the communities where we operate Marketplace Foods in Hayward, Rice Lake, Menomonie and St. Croix Falls.

It is ESSENTIAL that our ESSENTIAL, front-line GROCERY STORE EMPLOYEES remain in the 1a phase of Covid-19 vaccinations. Do not displace them as non-essential and make them wait while we remain open and serve our customers in a very public environment.

I respectfully ask that this proposal to move them to 1b be reconsidered and adamantly rejected and that you keep them in the 1a phasing.

Thank you for your consideration. I appreciate all of the difficult work and decisions you've had to make throughout this process.

Sincerely,
Dennis Host

 |

From: [Cates, Lisa A - DHS](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: FW: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 12:22:12 PM

From: Lauren Webbles <Lauren.Webbles.404654124@p2a.co>
Sent: Thursday, January 14, 2021 12:05 PM
To: Palm, Andrea J - DHS <andrea.palm@dhs.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B

Dear Committee Member,

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

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

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

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

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

Sincerely ,
Lauren Webbles



From: [Cates, Lisa A - DHS](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: FW: Vaccine Distribution Priority Plan
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 12:22:01 PM
Attachments: image001.png
0121 Vaccine Priority For Food Service Workers.pdf

From: Kristine Hillmer <khillmer@wirerestaurant.org>
Sent: Thursday, January 14, 2021 12:09 PM
To: Palm, Andrea J - DHS <andrea.palm@dhs.wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; Rep.Sanfelippo - LEGIS <Rep.Sanfelippo@legis.wisconsin.gov>; Hoisington, Joshua - LEGIS <Joshua.Hoisington@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Vaccine Distribution Priority Plan

Secretary Palm-

Please see this letter regarding the COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Plan. If you have any questions regarding our concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Stay Safe, Stay Healthy and Support Restaurants,
Kristine

Share that you care! Take the “Ready to Serve Safely” Pledge today! Sign up at:
www.SafeDiningWisconsin.com



WRA has your back.

Kristine Hillmer
President and CEO
Wisconsin Restaurant Association
608.270.9950 • khillmer@wirerestaurant.org

wirerestaurant.org





2801 Fish Hatchery Road | Madison, WI 53713 | (608) 270-9950 | (800) 589-3211 | FAX (608) 270-9960 | www.wirestaurant.org

January 14, 2021

Secretary Andrea Palm
Department of Health Services
Delivered Electronically: Andrea.Palm@dhs.wisconsin.gov

Secretary Palm,

The Wisconsin Restaurant Association represents over 7,000 restaurant locations statewide representing all segments of the foodservice industry. Restaurants are the cornerstones of their neighborhoods and communities providing not only great food, drink and hospitality, but safe places to celebrate, mourn and organize. And, in some communities, are a much needed and critical source of safe meals for families who have few other options available to them.

In early December, we sent correspondence to Governor Evers urging the State of Wisconsin to follow the Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers Guidance Version 4.0 from the federal Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) when developing the vaccine distribution plan. Within that guidance, our industry has been deemed essential as we are an integral part of the food chain. With that as the background, we've been eagerly waiting to see what the State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee (SDMAC) would determine for our great state.

As you can imagine, we were dismayed to hear that the SDMAC Vaccine Committee is deviating significantly from the federal guidelines and are not including critical workers within the food chain in their plans, making them ineligible for COVID-19 Vaccines with other essential workers. We urge you to reconsider this action and request that DHS use the CISA guidance when defining what will constitute 'essential workers' in Phase 1B of the DHS COVID-19 vaccine distribution plan, which then which includes foodservice and restaurant industry workers accordingly. It is imperative that these critical workers be made a priority for distribution so they can continue to operate safely and provide much needed food to many who they serve.

Thank you for your time and consideration. If I can be of service or can answer any questions you may have, do not hesitate to reach out to me directly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kristine Hillmer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kristine Hillmer, MBA, CAE
President & CEO

Cc: Wisconsin Governor Tony Evers
Wisconsin Assembly Committee on Health

From: [Cates, Lisa A - DHS](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: FW: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 12:21:08 PM

From: CARLTON MILLER <CARLTON.MILLER.404671486@p2a.co>
Sent: Thursday, January 14, 2021 12:16 PM
To: Palm, Andrea J - DHS <andrea.palm@dhs.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B

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.

Please!!!!

Sincerely,
CARLTON MILLER

 |

From: [Lauren Webbles](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 12:04:38 PM

Dear Committee Member,

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

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

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

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

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

Sincerely ,
Lauren Webbles



From: [Darci Jackson](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 11:55:05 AM

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.

SIGNED,

Darci Jackson

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [Dennis Host](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 11:50:45 AM

Dear Committee Member,

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

As a part-business owner who has had a significant number of our ESSENTIAL employees working on the front lines every single day since the pandemic started to serve guests in our grocery stores and ensure they have necessary food essentials available to them, it would be a SIGNIFICANT dismissal of their essential service during this time.

We have had to work tirelessly to keep our employees safe as well as provide a safe shopping experience in our stores for our customers. We implemented mandatory mask wearing for our employees in early April. And we dealt with significant push-back by many customers when we implemented it for customers later on. Yet, we have remained steadfast in our commitment to serve the communities where we operate Marketplace Foods in Hayward, Rice Lake, Menomonie and St. Croix Falls.

It is ESSENTIAL that our ESSENTIAL, front-line GROCERY STORE EMPLOYEES remain in the 1a phase of Covid-19 vaccinations. Do not displace them as non-essential and make them wait while we remain open and serve our customers in a very public environment.

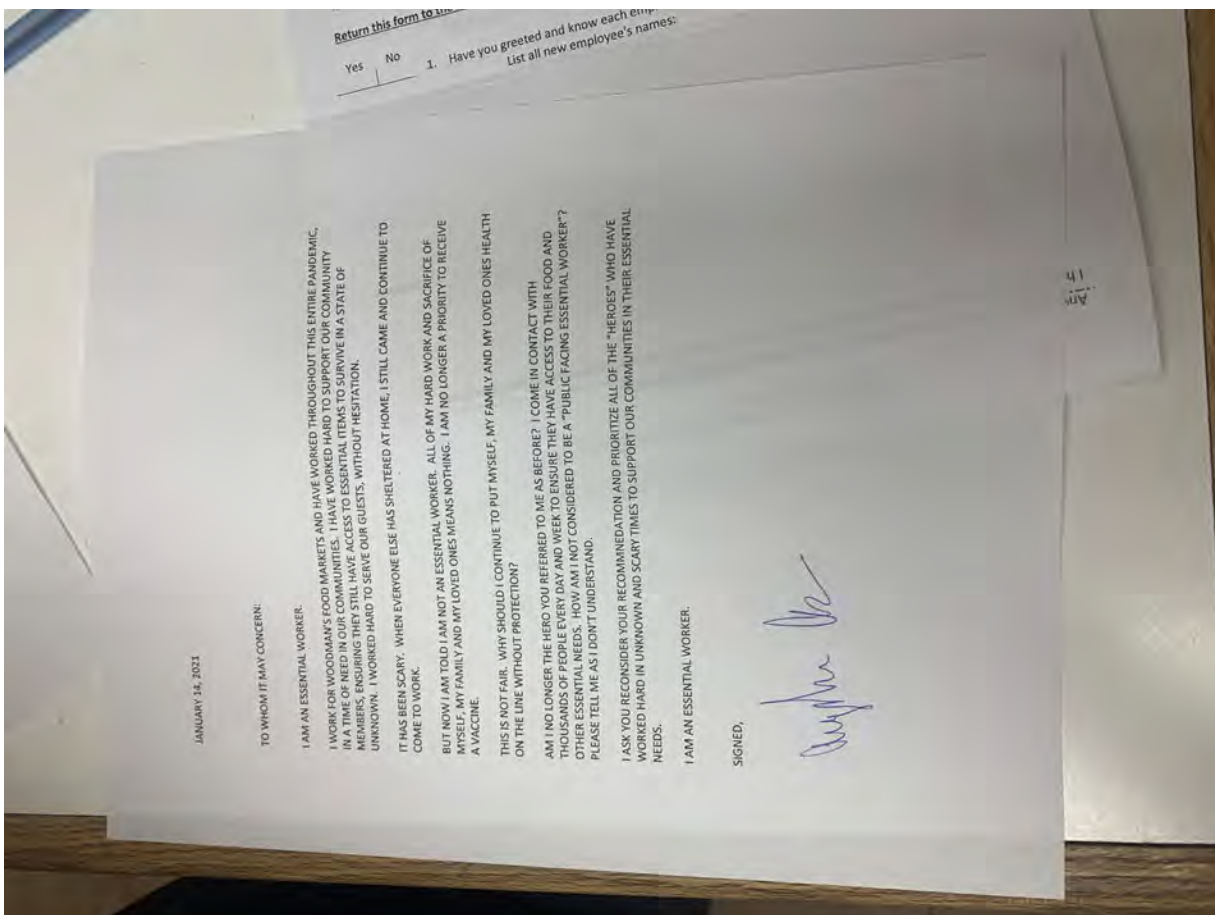
I respectfully ask that this proposal to move them to 1b be reconsidered and adamantly rejected and that you keep them in the 1a phasing.

Thank you for your consideration. I appreciate all of the difficult work and decisions you've had to make throughout this process.

Sincerely ,
Dennis Host



From: [Alysha Olson](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 11:45:34 AM



With the amount of people we see everyday we should be the among the first people who should be getting this vaccine. This is absolutely absurd that we are being excluded from being offered this vaccine. We should be offered this as we feed a majority of the population in and around the Altoona, WI area. We are some of the most susceptible people in the community and if our staff gets sick, our community will suffer. I pray you reconsider the safety of the employees who are needing the option for this vaccine.

Thank you for your time,
Alysha Olson

From: [Ben Brady](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee, Phase 1 B - Restaurant Workers
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 11:43:45 AM

To Whom It May Concern:

As the General Manager of two restaurants in Wisconsin, I'm writing to implore you to include restaurant workers in Phase 1B. There are numerous reasons to include restaurant workers in this phase, from supporting food supply chains to providing a safer working environment for a workforce that has been hit disproportionately compared to other sectors.

Economic recovery will be expedited by vaccinating restaurant workers. The food supply chain will be stronger, which means keeping farmers, wholesalers, fishers, wineries, breweries, delivery drivers, and more, in business. 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.

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.

In addition to economic recovery, including restaurant workers in Phase 1B also protects a group that, by definition of their career, must be in close contact with other people--be it the public or their coworkers. "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. "Back of House" restaurant workers (managers, chefs, cooks, dishwashers) are not able to physically distance from each other while cooking in kitchens.

Please consider including restaurant workers in Phase 1B. Ours is an industry that is hanging on by a thread and will be a force in making everyone's lives feel closer to normal. I appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,
Ben Brady

General Manager
Everly | Miko Poke
2701 Monroe St
608.516.1390

From: [Kim Bender](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee Phase1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 11:40:21 AM

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 CONTINUED TO COME TO WORK.

BUT NOW I AM TOLD I AM NOT AN ESSENTIAL WORKER. ALL OF MY HARD WORK AND SACRIFICE ON 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 HEAD 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.

SIGNED



[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [Devin Sawyer](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1B Rollout - Vaccine Subcommittee
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 11:32:33 AM

Good morning,

I urge you to expand the definition “frontline essential workers” eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine in Phase 1b of the distribution. This would specify workers in the agricultural industry such as animal nutritionists, agronomists, laboratory workers, and others that directly support food production in Wisconsin. I believe these types of workers fit the criteria noted in the recommendations document, “... *essential nature of their jobs, difficulty identifying trained replacements, or unique circumstances of employment.*”

These workers play a critical and often overlooked role in our state’s food production. Protecting them with the COVID-19 vaccine will ensure Wisconsin stays on track for a successful and productive 2021.

Thank you for your time,

Devin Sawyer
Juneau, WI Resident

From: [Andrea Vail](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: SDMAC Tier 1b Vote
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 11:32:03 AM

To whom it may concern,

I am writing because it was brought to my attention that the Subcommittee has not included Food Supply Workers in the tier 1b group to be vaccinated.

I am extremely confused and concerned about why those who work in Grocery stores wouldn't be in this next group to be vaccinated. Those workers are in steady contact with the public and are an absolute necessary role in order for the general population to eat.

Please strongly reconsider including them in the next tier of vaccinations.

Best Regards,

Andrea Vail



From: [Nicole E. Anderson](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Covid Vaccine
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 11:27:27 AM
Attachments: image001.png

January 14th, 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.

Much Thanks!

Nicole Anderson

HR Generalist

608-278-2245 || Fax 608-270-2386



SERVING THE REAL INDEPENDENT GROCERS!

5321 Verona Road Madison, Wisconsin 53711-6050

SERVING THE REAL INDEPENDENT GROCERS!

www.certcoinc.com

From: [curt schmidt](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 11:21:52 AM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. Any questions please call me at 920-387-3220

Sincerely,
curt schmidt



From: [Kay Martin](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 10:49:12 AM

Respectfully,

1) lower the age from 70 to 65 so we have a unified approach across the country based on the latest federal CDC recommendations. Otherwise, we open ourselves to farther partisan criticism and distractions as to why did we not honor the latest CDC calls.

2) eliminate access to the vaccine by those "residents of congregate living facilities" who are in jails, prisons...inmates. These individuals have made choices and are incarcerated by those choices. Protection via a vaccine for them does nothing to open up our economy, get people back to work, to volunteering in community, to shopping safely... Prioritizing this group is an affront to bus drivers, grocery workers and any Wisconsin resident who goes to work every day hoping they don't contract the virus. NO to inmates.

Kay Martin

From: [Jeff Miller](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Covid Vaccine
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 10:43:51 AM

January 13, 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.

Jeffrey Miller

Building Systems Manager

Verona Road

608-271-4500 (ext. # 1257)



5321 Verona Road Madison, Wisconsin
53711

**SERVING THE REAL INDEPENDENT
GROCERS !**

www.certcoinc.com

From: [Lisa Nordmeyer](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 10:41:05 AM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize for COVID-19 vaccinations. I have worked in the grocery industry since 1987, never to have seen such a year as we have been through. Coming to work everyday being glad I am here to serve everyone in need, but would hope that it meant something when it comes to getting the vaccinations. I was happy to hear that we were on the 1b level, but now the changing of rankings is very disheartening. Please reconsider us to be the essential employees you consider us and leave the grocery workers in level 1b.

Sincerely ,
Lisa Nordmeyer



From: [Bob Power](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 10:40:16 AM

Dear Subcommittee Members,

The Colonial Club Senior Center in Sun Prairie would encourage covid vaccine eligibility to home delivered meal drivers of any age. As the crucial component to this program, we cannot afford to lose any volunteer drivers due to a Covid diagnosis. Out of the 82 active drivers we have right now, 57 of them are under the age of 70. Many of those over the age of 70 have temporarily stopped volunteering due to Covid crisis. As a result we are relying on our younger volunteers to get meals out. We need 50 drivers a week for our 10 routes daily that deliver meals to homebound residents in Sun Prairie, Marshall, Medina, Deerfield, Cottage Grove, Bristol & Burke. We are taking meals to individuals living alone and isolated in rural northeast Dane County. We cannot make this happen without volunteers. Again, we encourage home delivered meal drivers of any age be included in Phase 1b.

Thank you,

Bob Power

*Robert J. Power, Executive Director
Colonial Club
301 Blankenheim Lane
Sun Prairie, WI 53590
(608) 837-4611 ext. 110
(608) 837-9302 (fax)
rpower@colonialclub.org*



Unprecedented times call for unprecedented action

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From: [Antonio Hernandez](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine - Tier 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 10:16:28 AM

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,

Antonio Hernandez, Jr.

Essential Work

From: [Jordan Bright](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B Public Comment
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 10:12:32 AM

Good Morning Subcommittee Members,

I am writing to ask that you include restaurant/hospitality employees in your definition of public facing employees for Phase 1B vaccinations.

The restaurant industry specifically is a dynamic member of the local economy. I've seen estimates as high as 20% of all calories consumed in the United States originate in restaurants. Our services are vital to those who depend on prepared food for a significant source of their sustenance. Beyond our customers, our purveyors and partners (farmers, fishers, wholesalers, delivery drivers, wineries, breweries, etc) require our viability and success to maintain their businesses. With the above and our own financial solvency in mind, we have operated throughout the pandemic at significant risk to our personal health.

We have taken and promptly implemented all CDC and local public health guidance for safeguarding our employees against COVID-19 while working. However, the responsibilities and nature of our work still presents heightened risk compared to other occupations. "Front of House" team members (servers, bartenders, hosts, managers, etc) work in close proximity to unmasked diners for extended periods of time. Our diners follow safety protocols but recent studies have shown customers who dine-in at restaurants are 50% more likely to contract COVID-19. "Back of House" team members (chefs, dishwashers, cooks, managers) work in tight quarters of a kitchen and are often not able to physically distance to perform routine tasks. There is no telework solution for restaurant employees. As a result, we regularly have positive cases and many close contacts that require isolation. These outbreaks force our already struggling restaurants (revenues down 50-70% year over year) to adjust their service hours or even temporarily close our businesses. These closures deepen our revenue losses, waste product because of spoilage, and further cut our employee's wages. We desperately want our businesses to be a safe space for our employees and our guests and are adamant that vaccinating our staff is the most immediate need.

Last, a large percent of our industry's employees are from the Latinx community. This pandemic has highlighted what was already obvious, our social safety nets are disproportionately available to our minority communities. As a result, the spread of COVID-19 and severity of the outcomes are more heavily affecting these communities. Regarding the vaccine, you have the opportunity to do the right thing and make sure those communities who are most affected receive the most immediate relief. I firmly believe that including restaurant/hospitality workers in Phase 1B can help you do just that.

I know these are not simple decisions and you cannot accommodate everyone in Phase 1B, but I truly appreciate your consideration for the restaurant/hospitality workers of our community.

Sincerely,

Jordan

Jordan Bright
Managing Partner

Food Fight Restaurant Group®
651.331.9009
www.foodfightinc.com

From: [Kimberly Kockler](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 9:53:53 AM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. Our grocery workers play an essential role in ensuring that the public is able to shop for food and necessary supplies.

Sincerely ,
Kimberly Kockler



From: [Norm Haberl](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 9:52:30 AM

Dear Committee Member,

It is critically important that we maintain the food supply chain and vaccinating frontline grocery workers and food distribution/transportation workers should not be delayed per the State Medical Disaster Advisory Committee (SMDAC) recommendation. Grocery wholesalers and retailers have been struggling with labor shortages since the pandemic began to ensure Wisconsin customers and communities receive the essential food, medicine and household products they need. Please DO NOT delay their vaccinations. Including these essential frontline heroes with the general public will create further vaccination delays.

Sincerely ,
Norm Haberl



From: [Patrick Brennan](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Grocery Workers and the Vaccine
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 9:40:43 AM
Attachments: image001.png

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,

Patrick Brennan
Paper/Household/Snacks Buyer



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Phone: 608-270-2391

5321 Verona Rd, Madison, Wisconsin 53711

www.certcoinc.com

From: [Jack Blattner](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 9:34:41 AM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. The pandemic immediately impacted my workers for several quit out of fear for their safety while working at a grocery store. A week does not go by in which I have employees quarantined due to contact with COVID 19. The week before Thanksgiving I was running my entire grocery, dairy, frozen, scanning, and receiving departments with only two other employees! Keep us safe and protect our communities by keeping grocery workers essential!

Sincerely ,
Jack Blattner



From: [Barb Melson](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 9:31:53 AM

Dear Committee Member,

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

The grocery store that I work at has seen a huge increase in business since the pandemic has begun. We see thousands of people each day and not everyone takes this seriously. We have done what we can to lower our chances of contacting COVID but with the number of people we see each day we need to be able to get the vaccine before the general public.

Thank you!

Sincerely ,
Barb Melson



From: [Kelsey Leindecker](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 9:23:00 AM

Dear Committee Member,

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

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely ,
Kelsey Leindecker



From: [Christie Schulte](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 9:12:58 AM

Dear Committee Member,

We are asking that the state reconsider the latest recommendation regarding grocery workers and their positioning for vaccination. Our employees have been faced with numerous challenges over the course of the pandemic and have been relied upon by their communities to make sure that families were able to have food on their table and have access to essential health and household supplies. Their health and safety is extremely important to their communities.

Sincerely,
Christie Schulte



From: [Megan Breunig](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Attn: Vaccine Subcommittee
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 9:03:20 AM
Attachments: image001.png
Importance: High

January 14, 2021

State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee (SDMAC)
Vaccine Subcommittee

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,

Megan Breunig
Buyer - Merchandiser
CERTCO INC

From: [Rick Lee](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 8:56:41 AM

Dear Committee Member,

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

Sincerely ,
Rick Lee



From: [Stephanie Jung Dorfman](#)
To: [Williams, TR - GOV](#)
Cc: [phabeck](#); [Palm, Andrea J - DHS](#); [Olson, Lisa A - DHS](#); [Pennoyer, Kara - GOV](#); [Kuhn, Jamie S - GOV](#); [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Re: Request for vaccinations for frontline, essential hunger-relief workers
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 8:54:29 AM

Good morning T.R.,

Thank you for explaining the process for decision making that is happening for ongoing vaccine allocation. I will share this information with the leaders of our food banks and we will provide additional comments before the deadline. Please let me know if we can provide any additional information that might be helpful to you or the SDMAC.

We appreciate your support!

Take care,
Stephanie

On Thu, Jan 14, 2021 at 12:40 AM Williams, TR - GOV <tr.williams@wisconsin.gov> wrote:

Greetings Stephanie,

I hope this message finds you and your family safe, healthy and well.

I am emailing to confirm that our office successfully received your email and letter on behalf of Feeding Wisconsin and the hunger-relief network. I have re- attached your letter to this email, for reference.

We understand the request for the prioritization of those in the hunger-relief network in the COVID-19 vaccine distribution, as frontline , essential workers in phase 1b.

Your concerns are important. I have shared your message and the information included in your message with the appropriate people on our team, including directly with the State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee (SDMAC).

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) is still receiving guidance and recommendations on matters of vaccine prioritization. DHS will be relying on guidance from the Advisory Committee of Immunization Practices (ACIP) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

In addition, the [State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee \(SDMAC\)](#) is actively working on [recommendations](#) to the DHS Secretary and the Governor on vaccine allocation for Wisconsin. All of the meetings of the SDMAC are open to the public, and posted on the [public meetings website](#) as well as on the [DHS website](#).

The SDMAC Vaccine Distribution Subcommittee has advanced their recommendations for COVID-19 Vaccine Priority Group 1b. You can review the document [here](#), and submit comment to DHSSDMAC@dhs.wisconsin.gov.

The public comment period will remain open until 4:00PM on Monday, January 18. The subcommittee will meet again on Wednesday, January 20th to review & address public comment, and ultimately advance the recommendation to the full SDMAC on Thursday, January 21st.

The [Wisconsin Department of Health Services COVID-19: Vaccine](#) website has additional information and updates regarding the vaccine and additional [information for vaccinators](#) (including details of the enrollment process). Additional resources include:

- DHS [COVID-19 vaccination plan](#)
- DHS' [executive summary of the vaccination plan](#)

Thank you for reaching out to our office, for your service, leadership and advocacy on behalf of Wisconsinites.

We truly believe that we will get through this together.

Best,

~ T.R. Williams, J.D ~

Deputy Director of External Affairs

Office of Governor Tony Evers

tr.williams@wisconsin.gov | w: 608-266-7861 | c: 608-279-0541

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From: Stephanie Jung Dorfman <sdorfman@feedingwi.org>
Sent: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 7:30 AM
To: Palm, Andrea J - DHS <andrea.palm@dhs.wisconsin.gov>; Pennoyer, Kara - GOV <kara.pennoyer1@wisconsin.gov>; Williams, TR - GOV <tr.williams@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: GOV Info <govinfo@wisconsin.gov>; phabeck <phabeck@feedingamericawi.org>
Subject: Request for vaccinations for frontline, essential hunger-relief workers

Dear Secretary-Designee Palm, Ms. Pennoyer, and Ms. Williams,

Thank you for all you're doing to keep us safe and informed about COVID-19 in Wisconsin.

I am writing to respectfully request that as you and others make decisions about the vaccination schedule, that frontline, essential workers who are part of the hunger-relief network be included in the first-priority group of Phase 1B of vaccinations. Please find a letter with additional information attached. This letter was submitted on the Governor's website in addition to being sent to you directly.

Thank you for your ongoing support and partnership to ensure that all Wisconsinites have access to the food and benefits they need to work, learn, play and live healthy lives.

In service,

Stephanie

--



Stephanie Jung Dorfman

Executive Director
Feeding Wisconsin
she/her/hers



Mobile: 608-960-4517

SDorfman@FeedingWI.org

FeedingWI.org

2850 Dairy Drive

Madison, WI 53718

Together, we are leading the way Forward to a healthy and hunger-free Wisconsin!

From: [Marie Werth](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Cc: [John Eiden](#); [Melanie Bartholf](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee: Phase 1b Comments
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 8:24:45 AM
Attachments: UFCW Letter to SDMAC SubCommittee on Vaccine Prioritization 1.14.21.pdf

Good Morning,

Please see attached file for letter on behalf of President Eiden.

Thank You,

Marie Werth

Office Manager

UFCW Local 1473

2001 N. Mayfair Road

Milwaukee, WI 53226

P: 414-909-7923

E: mwerth@ufcw1473.org



State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee (SDMAC)
Vaccine Subcommittee

January 14, 2021

Dear Members of the SDMAC Vaccine Subcommittee:

On behalf of the over 12,000 members of the United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW) Local 1473, I ask that you prioritize our essential frontline workers in grocery stores, meatpacking and food processing plants, and healthcare, when distributing the COVID-19 vaccine. Specifically, we ask that our members working in the food supply chain in grocery stores, meatpacking plants, and food processing facilities be placed in Phase 1b to receive the vaccine.

UFCW members throughout the food chain have been on the frontline of this pandemic. These workers have been risking their health and safety to ensure that our nation's food supply is safe, grocery store shelves are stocked, and pharmacies are distributing medication.

To date, at least 373 UFCW members have died of COVID-19, and over 68,000 members have been exposed or gotten sick with the virus. With our members and their sacrifice in mind, we call on you to ensure that our members are second in line to receive a safe and proven COVID-19 vaccine by placing them in Phase 1b.

We agree with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and its Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommendation to prioritize health care personnel and long-term care facilities in Phase 1a of vaccine distribution. ACIP has recommended that states prioritize grocery, meatpacking, food processing, and pharmacy in Phase 1b for COVID-19 vaccine access. Your subcommittee must recognize the vital role these essential workers serve by ensuring that they are among the first to receive access to the COVID-19 vaccine.

America's grocery, meatpacking, and food processing workers have been on the frontlines of this deadly pandemic since day one, putting themselves in harm's way to feed our families during this crisis. UFCW Local 1473 is calling on you to prioritize these brave men and women for early access to the COVID-19 vaccine immediately after health care workers.

Protecting our country's food workers is essential to keeping our communities safe and we look forward to working with you on this matter.

Sincerely,



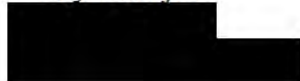
John R Eiden
President and International Vice President
UFCW Local 1473

From: [Vicky Callejas](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 8:22:48 AM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. I am concerned working on a daily basis with the public, even though we take all the pre-cautions we are suppose to in the work place.

Sincerely ,
Vicky Callejas



From: [Jacob Garvey](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 8:19:12 AM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. Grocery workers have worked tirelessly throughout the pandemic and are as critical to our food supply as farmers. While our company takes every safety precaution possible for our team, the reality is that this team has been exposed to the members of the public every day and put at increased risk of infection for nearly a year now. Even with capacity limits in place, our team of 150 employees is exposed to 2,500-3,500 customers each & every day at each of our (3) locations. A recent study found that grocery store employees may be at higher risk for COVID-19 and may be more likely to have no symptoms. (<https://www.cnn.com/2020/10/29/health/grocery-workers-increased-covid-19-risk-wellness/index.html>). Grocery workers do not have the opportunity to do their jobs from home. Their role in our community requires them to be at their workplace day in & day out, often working with customers who do not follow basic CDC safety precautions like wearing a face covering (or not wearing it properly). It has been stressful for many of them to come to work every day, but they have endured and continued to provide a way for families in our community to have food on their tables. Please allow this group who serve such a vital need in our community access to the COVID19 vaccine as early as possible and do not move them to group 1C.

Sincerely ,
Jacob Garvey



From: [Nancy Lee](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 8:08:34 AM
Attachments: image001.png

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,

Nancy Lee

Client Relations Specialist | Receptionist



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Office: (608) 271-4500 | 1100

5321 Verona Road Madison, Wisconsin 53711-6050

www.certcoinc.com

From: [scott neumann](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 8:07:24 AM

Dear Committee Member,

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

Sincerely ,
scott neumann



From: [TDS](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccinating restaurant workers
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 8:00:50 AM

Please consider vaccinating restaurant workers as part of Phase 1B. Restaurants are a vital part of the food chain keeping farmers, wholesale fisheries, breweries and delivery drivers working.

Front of the House workers which consist of managers, servers, bartenders, hosts have a higher level of interaction with unmasked diners for extended periods of time.

Back of the House workers which include chefs, cooks, dishwashers are unable to safely distance while preparing meals.

Many of the restaurant workers are Latino which have been disproportionately impacted by Covid 19.

Restaurant workers cannot telework.

The restaurant industry has suffered greatly during this pandemic. Restaurant sales are down 50-75% and it is even worse in the winter when they are unable to rely on outside dining.

Please help the restaurant business come back by vaccinating employees before more businesses have to shut their doors.

Thanks for your consideration,
Dawn Telega
Dane County Resident

Sent from my iPad

From: [Bob Kellner](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 8:00:40 AM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. We deal with thousands of customers a day. We feel we would like some help in being protected from this virus.

Sincerely ,
Bob Kellner



From: [albericis](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 7:58:12 AM

To whom it may Concern,

Why is the vaccine being given to people that are not working on the front lines. Some I know are retired and have been traveling through this pandemic. Yet they are getting Vaccinated before the grocery industry. That is all kinds of wrong. My husband is 68, high risk and works the grocery industry. What is wrong with this State besides the fact our reps care nothing about the people. Prisons going first that is beyond ridiculous. People who have worked long hours keeping food on your table should be among the first. They have sacrificed a lot to keep people fed. They should not be bumped down.

You want to bump people out, I would say the politicians that refuse to follow guidelines and their followers should be bumped down. This pandemic has been a mess from the start because of ignorance. Now the people that need to go first are being put on the back burner

This needs to be reconsidered they have worked too hard and too long to be pushed aside.

Thank you

Theresa Alberici-Yttri

Sent from my U.S.Cellular© Smartphone

From: [Daniel Nesbitt](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 7:29:16 AM

Dear Committee Member,


I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. Piggly Wiggly in Sister Bay is a critical part of the northern Door County community. Without the vaccine we constantly run the risk of an infection running rampant through our store! We right now struggle with staffing every day. An infection in our store could shut us down and cripple northern Door County.

We face hundreds of people on a daily basis, never knowing who coming in is already infected. We NEED this vaccine to protect our employees!! It is CRITICAL to northern Door!

Thank you for your consideration,

Daniel Nesbitt
Piggly Wiggly of Sister Bay

Sincerely ,
Daniel Nesbitt



From: [Nick Tiller](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee, Phase 1 B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 7:16:53 AM

Hello,

I just wanted a moment of your time to ask that you consider including restaurant employees in Phase 1B of the vaccine roll out. COVID 19 has had a huge impact on the restaurant industry, forcing many employees to be laid off.

Restaurants play a huge impact on food chain supply, not only feeding the public through carryout, delivery and dine in, but also giving business to all of the food suppliers.

Front of house employees, such as servers, bussers, shift managers, and bartenders, have a high level of risk due to the nature of their job interacting with a large segment of the public in a relatively close proximity. Back of house employees, including managers, chefs, cooks and dishwashers, as well cannot be physically distanced while cooking. Many back of house employees are also part of the Latinx community who are disproportionately represented among people testing positive and hospitalized for COVID 19.

The restaurant industry employs so many workers who need this basic income to pay their essential bills. I hope you take all of this into consideration, and give an industry that is deemed essential, the opportunity to continue to operate but in a safer capacity to it's employees.

Thank you,

Nick Tiller

From: [Matt Nichols](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Covid Vacation
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 7:06:52 AM

My opinion about the vaccine, Truck drivers should be in the top 1b , we travel from state to state delivering groceries and other goods

Get [Outlook for Android](#)

From: [Ethan Geidel](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 7:05:17 AM

Dear Committee Member,

Please reconsider grocery workers as an essential. We were there keeping food on the shelves during the beginning of this crisis. We are around thousands of people everyday, with about 1/4 of them still refusing to wear masks. We are at such a high risk here and we are doing it to serve our community like we always have. I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations.

Sincerely,
Ethan Geidel



From: [Lyle Burt](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1b COVID-19 vaccine public comment
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 5:43:52 AM

Hello,

I'm a frontline essential manufacturing employee for food processing and dairy who frequently deals with the public/individuals outside of my employer. I would like to see this group included sooner than later as this portion manufacturing is critical in the state of Wisconsin to daily life for many and dairy doesn't take a break even if we're not here due to sickness.

Thank you

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Marianne Schmidt](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 5:13:57 AM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. Our associates have and continue to serve our communities as a vital and necessary part to keep our society operating. The work they do is essential to us all going back to normal, let's take care of them

Sincerely ,
Marianne Schmidt



From: [Chad Sperry](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Restore Grocery workers to Tier 1B Status
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 4:23:41 AM
Attachments: image001.png

January 14, 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,

Chad Sperry

Receiving Department

5321 Verona Road

Madison, WI 53711

West Appts – apptswest@certcoinc.com



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www.certcoinc.com

608-271-4500

From: [Williams, TR - GOV](#)
To: [Stephanie Jung Dorfman](#)
Cc: [phabeck](#); [Palm, Andrea J - DHS](#); [Olson, Lisa A - DHS](#); [Pennoyer, Kara - GOV](#); [Kuhn, Jamie S - GOV](#); [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: RE: Request for vaccinations for frontline, essential hunger-relief workers
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 12:40:43 AM
Attachments: Feeding Wisconsin Letter to Governor and DHS 01.12.2021.pdf

Greetings Stephanie,

I hope this message finds you and your family safe, healthy and well.

I am emailing to confirm that our office successfully received your email and letter on behalf of Feeding Wisconsin and the hunger-relief network. I have re- attached your letter to this email, for reference.

We understand the request for the prioritization of those in the hunger-relief network in the COVID-19 vaccine distribution, as frontline , essential workers in phase 1b.

Your concerns are important. I have shared your message and the information included in your message with the appropriate people on our team, including directly with the State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee (SDMAC).

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) is still receiving guidance and recommendations on matters of vaccine prioritization. DHS will be relying on guidance from the Advisory Committee of Immunization Practices (ACIP) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

In addition, the [State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee \(SDMAC\)](#) is actively working on [recommendations](#) to the DHS Secretary and the Governor on vaccine allocation for Wisconsin. All of the meetings of the SDMAC are open to the public, and posted on the [public meetings website](#) as well as on the [DHS website](#).

The SDMAC Vaccine Distribution Subcommittee has advanced their recommendations for COVID-19 Vaccine Priority Group 1b. You can review the document [here](#), and submit comment to DHSSDMAC@dhs.wisconsin.gov.

The **public comment period will remain open until 4:00PM on Monday, January 18**. The subcommittee will meet again on Wednesday, January 20th to review & address public comment, and ultimately advance the recommendation to the full SDMAC on Thursday, January 21st.

The [Wisconsin Department of Health Services COVID-19: Vaccine](#) website has additional information and updates regarding the vaccine and additional [information for vaccinators](#)

(including details of the enrollment process). Additional resources include:

- DHS [COVID-19 vaccination plan](#)
- DHS' [executive summary of the vaccination plan](#)

Thank you for reaching out to our office, for your service, leadership and advocacy on behalf of Wisconsinites.

We truly believe that we will get through this together.

Best,

~ T.R.Williams, J.D ~

Deputy Director of External Affairs

Office of Governor Tony Evers

tr.williams@wisconsin.gov | w: 608-266-7861 | c: 608-279-0541

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From: Stephanie Jung Dorfman <sdorfman@feedingwi.org>

Sent: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 7:30 AM

To: Palm, Andrea J - DHS <andrea.palm@dhs.wisconsin.gov>; Pennoyer, Kara - GOV <kara.pennoyer1@wisconsin.gov>; Williams, TR - GOV <tr.williams@wisconsin.gov>

Cc: GOV Info <govinfo@wisconsin.gov>; phabeck <phabeck@feedingamericawi.org>

Subject: Request for vaccinations for frontline, essential hunger-relief workers

Dear Secretary-Designee Palm, Ms. Pennoyer, and Ms. Williams,

Thank you for all you're doing to keep us safe and informed about COVID-19 in Wisconsin.

I am writing to respectfully request that as you and others make decisions about the vaccination schedule, that frontline, essential workers who are part of the hunger-relief network be included in the first-priority group of Phase 1B of vaccinations. Please find a letter with additional information attached. This letter was submitted on the Governor's website in addition to being sent to you directly.

Thank you for your ongoing support and partnership to ensure that all Wisconsinites have access to the food and benefits they need to work, learn, play and live healthy lives.

In service,
Stephanie

--



Stephanie Jung Dorfman

Executive Director

Feeding Wisconsin



she/her/hers

Mobile: 608-960-4517

SDorfman@FeedingWI.org

FeedingWI.org

2850 Dairy Drive

Madison, WI 53718

Together, we are leading the way Forward to a healthy and hunger-free Wisconsin!



2850 Dairy Drive
Madison, WI 53718
tel: 608-478-2882
fax: 608-478-2005
www.FeedingWI.org

January 12, 2021

Governor Tony Evers
115 East, State Capitol,
Madison, WI 53702

SUBMITTED VIA WEBSITE

DHS Secretary-Designee Andrea Palm
1 West Wilson Street
Madison, WI 53703

Subject: Vaccinations for frontline, essential hunger-relief workers

Dear Governor Evers and Secretary-Designee Palm:

Thank you for all you're doing to keep us safe and informed about COVID-19 in Wisconsin. As you and others make decisions about the vaccination schedule, I respectfully request that frontline, essential workers who are part of the hunger-relief network (including food banks, food pantries, meal programs and other community organizations) be included in the first-priority group of Phase 1B of vaccinations.

These workers are the critical force behind the wellbeing of the record number of Wisconsinites facing food insecurity. One in eight Wisconsinites, including one in five Wisconsin kids, don't know where their next meal is coming from. The hunger-relief network is mobilized like never before to meet this need. We're innovating and problem solving every day to connect resources with our hungry neighbors.

Our network served about 360,000 people in 2019; that number increased about 60% in recent months. In 2019, Wisconsin's food banks distributed 65 million pounds of food in total. Already between March and September of 2020, through the pandemic and economic crisis, Wisconsin's Feeding America affiliated food banks distributed about 90 million unprecedented pounds of food to those experiencing food insecurity.

I'm very open to working with you and others to determine who at our food banks is frontline and essential regarding the vaccine. I'm happy to talk further about this at your convenience. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Jung Dorfman, Executive Director

Cc: Kara Pennoyer, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of Governor Tony Evers
T.R. Williams, Deputy Director of External Affairs, Office of Governor Tony Evers
Patti Habeck, CEO Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin and President of Feeding Wisconsin Board of Directors



From: [Caitlin Suemnicht](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee, Phase 1 B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 11:32:00 PM

Hello Wisconsin State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee Vaccine Distribution Subcommittee:

As you decide what groups to include in Phase 1B of the vaccine, I am asking you to consider including restaurant workers on the list. The restaurant industry has a slow leak. We aren't completely devoid of air yet, but we're on our last gasps and it's scary. Maybe that slow leak can be temporarily patched up with takeout orders, but it's going to take more than that for us to rebound completely. We need to be protected, we need our customers to feel safe ordering from us, and we need our government to help us financially. The vaccine might be the thing that can turn our industry around.

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.

Thanks for your consideration,
Caitlin Suemnicht

Food Fight Restaurant Group (Madison, Middleton, Sun Prairie, WI)
Aldo's Café, Bar Corallini, Bassett Street Brunch Club, Canteen, Cento, DLUX, Eldorado Grill, Fresco, Johnny Delmonico's, Tex Tubb's Taco Palace, Monty's Blue Plate Diner, Market Street Diner, The Coopers Tavern, Craftsman Table & Tap, Hubbard Avenue Diner, Avenue Club, Everly, Miko Poke,

Luigi's Pizza, Steenbock's on Orchard

From: [Dave Cartwright](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 11:12:37 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of the frontline workers in the Food and Beverage industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. These individuals have been diligently working under difficult circumstances and at the risk of their health and that of their families to keep stores open and shelves full throughout this Pandemic. They, like other frontline and essential workers in areas such as healthcare and education, need, and deserve, a priority position in vaccination s.

Sincerely ,
Dave Cartwright



From: [Jeff Williams](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Grocery worker vaccinations
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 10:55:37 PM

To whom it may concern,

I was just reading that you are considering that grocery workers should be downgraded from the essential workers category. You have got to be kidding, right?

Grocery workers have been on the front lines since this crisis began. I am recently retired from Woodman's and am in contact with many of my former coworkers. They are working overtime, picking up extra shifts because of sick fellow employees and increase in demand, dealing with the anti-maskers, and coming home to their families with the fear that they may have been infected and may give it to their loved ones. They kept the stores open and added extra cleaning crews just to keep the public's pantries full of groceries. These people are just as essential as police and fire fighters, and much more essential than prisoners and elected officials at the Capitol in Madison or Washington DC.

Please use common sense when debating this issue. Too many of these grocery workers have missed work because they contracted the virus from their work. How could you even consider them non-essential?

Sincerely,
Jeff Williams

From: [Claire Hemmerling](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee: Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 10:50:12 PM

Hi,

I am emailing you due to my concern that you are pushing back grocery store workers from phase 1b to potentially phase 1C or phase 2 in the vaccine roll out. I am a nurse who works on a covid unit and I realize how important it is to vaccinate those at most risk, and I don't understand how grocery store workers do not qualify to be in this high risk group. They are constantly in contact with the general public, who rarely wear their masks properly or who may not wear masks at all. Getting groceries are 100% essential in order to live; therefore, people NEED to go to the grocery store and grocery store employees NEED to work. Please re-evaluate your decision in this matter. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Claire Kuschel

From: [Eric Strennen](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 10:48:17 PM
Importance: High

Dear 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,
Eric Strennen

From: [Aden T](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Group 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 9:54:45 PM

I believe public facing essential workers should be in vaccine group 1B. Grocery Store workers have been working non-stop this whole pandemic and each and every day they are around new people. Hundreds of people, maybe thousands pass through a grocery store everyday, and many employees have to come face to face with people who don't take this pandemic seriously. Grocery store workers have been putting their health, as well as their families' health, on the line just to make a living and feed fellow americans. I also believe teachers should be in group 1B, but not at the cost of taking front line essential workers out of 1B. You can always move class online, and have teachers work from the comfort of their own home, but you can not make grocery store employees work online- it just couldn't happen. Firefighters can not put out fires online, and police cannot enforce the law online. In conclusion, I strongly believe frontline essential workers, like grocery store employees should be in group 1B

From: [Adam Kristiansen](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Grocery workers-Vaccine priority
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 9:26:08 PM

To whom it may concern,

I have been in front of thousands if not millions of people over the last 10 months making sure everyone has food to feed their families during this pandemic.

Each day I come home praying I don't bring home the Covid -19 virus to my wife and children. Also praying that one day we will have a vaccine that will protect me and my family.

I know the effects of this virus from the many co-workers who have been infected. I also understand it's seriousness due to the death of my Grandma from the effects of this virus.

Now that a vaccine is available, you want to claim grocery workers are not essential, and not a priority for the vaccine????

Extremely disheartening and disappointing. What would America be without Grocery stores and the people who run them. Shame on you.

Make grocery industry workers essential and a priority for this vaccine!!!!

Adam Kristiansen
Grocery industry worker.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [Nathan Perry](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 9:24:03 PM

Dear Committee Member,

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

Grocery store workers have been serving the public every day to keep our communities fed.

We also come into contact with 100s to 1000s of people a day. Having Grocery store employees on the next round is important to protect them, their communities and their families.

I strongly urge you to include grocery store employees in the next vaccine round, who have tirelessly served our state in these trying times. When most people don't have to have so much contact with people every day.

Sincerely ,
Nathan Perry



From: [Mark Resch](#)
To: [GOV Info: DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: COVID-19 vaccinations
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 9:15:08 PM

To Whom it May Concern,

It is with sadness and deep regret that I must write this communication to you. I am not an employee tied to the food supply chain industry, I am however, someone dependent on the workers of this industry to insure that I am able to eat! Many are minimum wage positions and come in close contact with hundreds of people a day. They can not afford to get sick, nor stay home if they do, putting us all at greater risk. Moving them down the list and delaying their opportunity to protect themselves is shameful and short-sighted! PLEASE reconsider your decision!

Thank You,
Mark Resch

From: [joyce](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 8:57:25 PM

Dear 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,
Joyce Simon

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Randall M. Simon](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 8:52:54 PM

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,
Randall M. Simon

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Sarah Drew](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 8:43:14 PM

Dear Committee Member,

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

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

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

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

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

Sincerely ,
Sarah Drew



From: [Rebecca Pranger](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 8:24:35 PM

Dear Committee Member,

It is critically important that we maintain the food supply chain and vaccinating frontline grocery workers and food distribution/transportation workers should not be delayed per the State Medical Disaster Advisory Committee (SMDAC) recommendation. Grocery wholesalers and retailers have been struggling with labor shortages since the pandemic began to ensure Wisconsin customers and communities receive the essential food, medicine and household products they need. Please DO NOT delay their vaccinations. Including these essential frontline heroes with the general public will create further vaccination delays.

Sincerely ,
Rebecca Pranger



From: [Meiman, Jonathan G - DHS](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: FW: Phase 1b Vaccination Distribution - Wisconsin
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 8:07:10 PM
Attachments: Wisconsin - Stephanie Schauer.pdf

Public comment re: 1b

From: Pray, Ian W - DHS (CDC) <ian.pray@dhs.wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 9:54 AM
To: Meiman, Jonathan G - DHS <Jonathan.Meiman@dhs.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: Phase 1b Vaccination Distribution - Wisconsin

FYI, not sure why this was sent to me. But in case you're interested it's a letter from Hormel about employee vaccination.

-Ian

From: Butler_Julie_K <JKButler@Hormel.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 7, 2021 8:15 PM
To: Pray, Ian W - DHS (CDC) <ian.pray@dhs.wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Grev_Jeffrey_A <jagrev@hormel.com>
Subject: Phase 1b Vaccination Distribution - Wisconsin

Dear Dr. Pray,

On behalf of Jeff Grev, please see attached. Hard copy of letter will be mailed via USPS.

Thank you.

Julie K. Butler
Exec. Adm. Asst. Ext. Affairs
Hormel Foods Corporation
Law Department
1 Hormel Place
Austin, MN 55912

Currently working remotely from home

email: jkbutler@hormel.com



Have a
Great Day!

From: jniemetscheck@gmail.com
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Food supply chain is essential (why do I even have to say this?)
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 8:00:19 PM

Dear 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 and to be honest, when milk farmers are recommended to get vaccinated but essential workers in the food supply chain are not, it smells a very fishy. An explanation of this seemingly ridiculous decision is expected and deserved. Decisions like these will be scrutinized, in the not too distant future, very publicly. Please, just do the right thing here. It's unbelievable that we even need to have this conversation.

Sincerely,

Justin Niemetscheck

From: [Melissa LaFontaine](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 7:28:40 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. I believe we need to be considered as priority in this as we have been in the front line just like many others!

Sincerely ,
Melissa LaFontaine



From: [Mike Coonen](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: COVID
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 7:09:49 PM

Hello,

My name is Michael Coonen I'm a truck driver who s primary job is delivering food to grocery stores. I also have an underlying health issue. I have what is know as Adult Congental Heart Disease from a birth defect. For the most part I'm relatively healthy, but am concerned about inflammation that COVID 19 could do to my heart.

My question is when will an essential worker with a underlying health condition be able to receive vaccine?

I look forward to hearing from you

Thanks

Mike Coonen

From: [Jon Schellpfeffer](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Request to Add Grocery Workers to Tier 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 6:38:07 PM

January 13, 2021

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

Dear 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,
Vickie and Jon Schellpfeffer
[Certco employee family members](#)

From: [BILL MELSON](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 6:29:14 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. We have been working on the frontlines since the very beginning of the pandemic. Even before there was any cases of Covid 19 in our area. We have been an intricate part of keeping our communities going through this difficult time when many other businesses were forced to shut down.

Sincerely,
BILL MELSON



From: [Laura White](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee (SDMAC) - Vaccine Subcommittee
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 5:57:51 PM
Importance: High

January 13, 2021

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,

Laura White

From: [Daniel Stout](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: For: Vaccine Subcommittee
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 5:49:33 PM
Attachments: image001.png

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 childcare 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.

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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,

Dan Stout

Digital Marketing/Web Developer



SERVING THE REAL INDEPENDENT GROCERS!

Direct: 608-278-2206 || Cell: 608-512-2773
5321 Verona Road, Madison, Wisconsin 53711-6050
www.certcoinc.com

From: [Karen Degeneffe](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: what about us!
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 5:45:31 PM

Hi

Didn't see anything about waitresses/waiters-bartenders ...

Unfortunately, since the state has no rules for dining-

We are out there every day/night with customers breathing in our faces... they might wear a mask in to the restaurant. But, as we know, once they sit down they feel free to "chat us up"- without any protection for us.

AND, another HUGE issue, we also still are working large functions (weddings, Christmas parties)- I work at a private country club... in a "free for all" state. So I am surrounded by customers with no . I strongly feel- we are in just as much danger of contracting the virus as any other essential worker- if not MORE

Regards,
Karen

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Melissa Keller](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 5:30:34 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. We are too on the frontlines as we assist customers and their families. A lot of us fear getting this viruses for many of us have medical issues. I for one have a heart condition and I also have Asthma. I also care for a 72 yr old mother, whom I afraid of her getting this.

Sincerely ,
Melissa Keller



From: [Johanna Pender](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 5:19:52 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. We deserve priority since we come into contact with the public countless times on a daily basis. I cannot wait to get vaccinated so I hug my family again.

Sincerely ,
Johanna Pender



From: [Ralph Malicki](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 5:06:37 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. I find it incredibly difficult to believe you do this! If you'd like me to expand on why and the number of person to person contacts I and my staff have had since this began please feel free to contact me directly so you can get real life numbers!!

Sincerely ,
Ralph Malicki

[REDACTED]

From: [john boelter](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 5:02:52 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. My word. I am a corporate lawyer that was called in March into the stores to help with the buying surge. As I filled shelves -- I was very concerned if not scared about catching Covid -- but I knew it was the right thing to do. I truly felt I was on the front lines -- doing what needed to be done for the good of the Country.

Sincerely ,
john boelter

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

From: [Chris Ethen](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Please reconsider the revised vaccine distribution plan
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 4:48:43 PM
Attachments: image001.png

Dear Vaccine Subcommittee Members,

As an employee of Certco, Inc, I write today as a wholesale grocery distributor that services independent grocery stores in Wisconsin and other states in the upper Midwest. The grocery stores that we serve are our owners.

Please reconsider your revised plan and include our industry in Tier 1B. Food is essential to the survival of all humankind, regardless of age. My co-workers have been working tirelessly to ensure people have the food and supplies they need available to them to follow the “Shelter in Place” and “Safer at Home” orders set forth by the state of Wisconsin. Without 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.

CDC guidance on the COVID-19 vaccine distribution was released even before the vaccines received approval and had our industry listed as part of tier 1B as an essential public-facing workforce. I am disheartened to hear the committee is not following this guidance and is instead recommending that our industry receive the vaccine as part of tier 1C.

Thank you for your consideration.

Chris

Chris Ethen

Director of IT



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www.certcoinc.com

From: [Bailey Hanna](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 4:48:08 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. We deal with the public everyday and we are just as essential as first responders.

Sincerely ,
Bailey Hanna

