

From: [Lori Morrow](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1b
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 8:51:48 AM

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Hello,

I have looked through the proposal for phase 1b vaccine distribution and it appears grocery stores are not on the list. These people have worked tirelessly through this pandemic to provide our citizens with the food and supplies we have needed. They also have been opened since the beginning of the lockdowns when other businesses had to close, making them truly essential workers. They have been exposed to countless people during that period of time and beyond to provide us with their services. They cannot opt to stay home to protect themselves as others can do. I implore you to include them in phase 1b of the vaccine distribution.

Thank you,
Lori Morrow

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Dawn Day](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 8:40:01 AM

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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 help with this important matter!!

Sincerely ,
Dawn Day

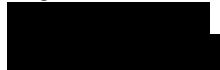
A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

From: [Gene Sutcliffe](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccines
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 8:29:21 AM

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Please consider the grocery industry as you decide the next eligible workers for COVID-19 vaccinations. Grocery workers have worked throughout the pandemic, and are exposed to many customers. Grocery store workers do not have the opportunity to work from home.

Eugene Sutcliffe



From: [Valerie Rasmussen](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Comment for Vaccine Subcommittee Regarding Phase 1b Inclusion
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 8:20:05 AM

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To Whom It May Concern of the Wisconsin State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee:

I am a healthcare worker who has already received the vaccine; however, I would like to advocate those in the grocer industry be added to the Phase 1b vaccination list.

The CDC itself recommends “food and agricultural workers” and “grocery store workers” be included in Phase 1b (https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/69/wr/mm695152e2.htm?s_cid=mm695152e2_w). Every single American/Wisconsinite depends on those in the agricultural/grocer industry, whereas some groups in Wisconsin’s planned Phase 1b list (child care workers, teachers, people over 70, mink farmers), arguably only effect those who have a direct need for their services or are included in that specific subgroup.

It is not my intention to devalue those listed in Wisconsin’s current Phase 1b list. Instead, I strongly feel those in the grocery industry be considered vital to the health and well-being of Wisconsinites. They have worked in-person throughout this pandemic, putting themselves and, by extension, their families, at risk. Grocery store employees come in contact with hundreds of people daily and without them, every single Wisconsinite would suffer. These essential employees should be honored for their work, and I believe an appropriate way to honor them would be to include them on the Phase 1b list.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I will provide my phone number upon request.

Sincerely,
Valerie Rasmussen

From: [Cindy T](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee phase 1b
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 8:19:38 AM

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Good morning,

I just read that grocery store employees are not to be included in receiving the immunization in phase 1b. Please reconsider and prioritize getting them immunized. They are there for us every day making sure we have food on our tables. They are absolutely essential and should be included as a priority group in phase 1b. To not include them is a slap in the face to the risk they take every day to serve us. Please reconsider!

Sincerely,
Cindy Trafton

From: [Cindy wegner](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee 1b
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 8:19:20 AM

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Good morning,

I am writing today to advocate for grocery store workers and in my husbands case commerical HVAC/refrigeration tech to be in this round of 1b vaccines. Grocery store workers have been there since the beginning. As food was scarce and the shelves were bare last March and we were all scared they bravely showed up to work keeping food on the shelves as best they could, checking people out showing courage each day. Even today when people can hide out in their cars for grocery pickup they bravely show up each day and provide food. Without them and without food we would not be here.

My husband does commerical refrigeration for a small company in Edgerton. He works each day in multiple different grocery stores including Walmarts, Festival and many others fixing cases, keeping food cold and safe and is around hundreds of people each day. I thank god he has not got this deadly virus yet or brought it home to our high risk son. Grocery store workers and in my husbands case the skilled tradesperson that works in the grocery stores keeping food cold and safe so we are all here today should be number 1 on the list!!!!

Without them we would not be here !

Thank you!

Cindy Wegner

From: [Sue Sand](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 8:15:21 AM

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Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. We work extremely hard to satisfy the customers coming into our store. We are put at risk with every customer. Some elect not to wear a mask, this is why we should be moved to a top priority for the vaccination. PLEASE!

Thank you!

Sincerely ,
Sue Sand



From: [Kelly Hink](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee and phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 8:14:10 AM

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

Dear SDMAC Vaccine Subcommittee Members:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,

Kelly Hink
HBC Manager
Metcalfe's Wauwatosa
6700 W. State St.
Wauwatosa, WI 53213
414-259-8560

From: chrsnter@wi.rr.com
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 8:14:04 AM

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I am a grocery worker for Sendik's foods. I'm 61.5 years old with a wife that just went through a mastectomy on Thursday, she's been working from home since March since she has been considered at risk since the beginning of the pandemic. I've also been delivering groceries to my 85 year old mother since it started.

Since this started I've worked a lot double shifts and worked scared. We've been called heroes though everyone knew that wouldn't last long. We have a very hard time keeping the stores staffed due to the Pandemic, somebody or their relative is always sick. Now more and more people are starting to not wear masks.

We've been called essential workers since day 1 except now that the vaccine is finally starting to roll out all of a sudden we're not so essential anymore.

Please keep Grocery workers in Phase 1B as we're dealing with 1000's of people every single day we work.

Perhaps all the Grocery stores should close down for a week and see if the general public deems us essential or not, maybe the week of the Superbowl if the Packers are in it.

Lastly I have voted in every election for over 20 years straight and will vote against my interests if this is allowed to stand.

Thank you for your time,

sincerely,

Christopher Curry

From: [Carrie Beidel](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 8:12:54 AM

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

Dear Committee Member,

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

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

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

Sincerely,
Carrie Beidel



From: [Jan and John Carroll](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 8:10:30 AM

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Hello,

I just read that food workers will not be included on the list of people who are next in line to receive COVID-19 vaccines. Mink farmers come before the thousands of people who open my grocery store at 6:00 so that I can safely shop for food.

Please change this. The people who work at our Pick and Save are worn out. They open the store at 6:00 so that elderly people and those with medical disorders can shop safely. Some of them have already contracted COVID. Their salaries are low, but their services to the community has been exceptional. They deserve to be protected by the vaccine immediately.

Please, be better and rectify this gross error in fairness.

Sincerely,

John Carroll



From: [Jennifer Hansen](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Attn: Department of Human Services
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 8:09:58 AM

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Attn: Department of Human Services

I am an essential worker at Woodman's Food Market and have worked throughout the entire pandemic to provide food, water, toilet paper, and other essential needs for my community. I was saddened to recently learn that my work and my sacrifice is not considered essential in regards to the vaccine roll out. In this request, I must remind you that myself and my colleagues in the grocery industry equally expose ourselves to the same health-related risks that nurses, police officers, doctors, receptionists, EMT's, maintenance personnel, and firefighters encounter on the job. In addition, I also reiterate that my occupation provides a similar degree of normalcy and stability to members of the community, many of whom have shown their gratitude, appreciation, and sincerity with "thank you for being here."

If the goal of distributing vaccines to essential workers is to protect all members of the community, then the definition of "essential workers" must be broadened to include employees in the grocery industry. Please remember that customers we serve also include the elderly population and/or individuals with considerable risk factors that increase their susceptibility to the community spread of Covid-19.

For simplification, we too are also first-responders on the front lines of improving the health and well-being community members and their families!

I ask that you reconsider your recommendation and prioritize the grocery store workers during this pandemic.

An essential worker,

Jennifer Shanin

Jefferson

From: [Jon Wellik](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Ab E Manufacturing, Waterloo, WI Request for consideration in 1b
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 8:03:05 AM

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Hello,

I am the CEO of Ab E Manufacturing, a human food manufacturer located in Waterloo, WI. Please consider us as part of 1b, "frontline essential", which in most of the country it's also considered phase 1b. Unlike even restaurants where they have the takeout option with very few onsite employees, we are there every day producing food for people putting ourselves in harms way.

Thanks,

Jon



Sent from my iPhone

From: [Pete Pagel](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee- Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 7:57:45 AM

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To whom it may concern,

Hello. I am a grocery store employee in Madison, WI. Recently it was announced that people who work in grocery are being bumped to the 1C rollout after believing that as essential employees throughout this pandemic, we would have the opportunity to be vaccinated within the guidelines of the 1B rollout with other jobs considered essential.

This has been extremely disheartening for myself and my teammates. We have been on the front lines since day one of the Covid-19 pandemic, ensuring that people have access to food while knowing that we could be exposed to the virus. Its been downright scary for us all on a daily basis seeing as we interact with hundreds of people every single day. There have been more than a handful of my coworkers that contracted Covid and we just want to feel safe after all of these months.

While I understand there are SO many other groups of the population in desparate need of vaccination, I would ask that you please consider us as Frontline workers and help us take care of ourselves and our families so no more grocery employees contract this awful virus. I do not wish to sound selfish, but please think about us with the 1b rollout.

I thank you for your time. Be well.

Pete Pagel


From: tthplr8@aol.com
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: grocery store citizens, vaccine subcommittee
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 7:53:58 AM

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Dear Deciding Members,

It is appalling that you are contemplating not including grocery personnel in your 1b Phase. Everyone has to get food from these institutions. Whether you have delivery or you enter the premises, you take the chance of contracting this horrible plague. There are no age, racial, economic barriers to people needing food to survive. The workers in grocery stores are putting their lives on the line in order to make sure that the food supply line is continuing. Some grocery stores are potentially mandating that their workers get the vaccine in order to continue working there in order to keep the population safe. Mink farmers and prisoners being put ahead of these workers is insane. Please make the correct choice and protect the people that have an incredibly higher contact with the population than mink farmers and prisoners. Please correct this and do the right thing for the most amount of people.

Thank you,

Susan Tubic

Dentist, Military member and citizen

From: [Jessica Motl](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1B vaccine subcommittee
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 7:52:17 AM

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To whom it concerns,

I am submitting this for public comment in regards to grocer employees being considered essential workers.

These workers are deserving of being designated tier 1B along with other essential workers. Teachers have been able to do their work virtually and often have been given the option of choosing not to work in person. This is impossible for grocers. Human needs are food, water and shelter. These employees kept the need of food available to all us during some very hard times, not withstanding putting themselves at personal risk. They come in contact with a very large amount of people in close proximity and, unlike a teacher for example, have no way of tracking those contacts. This exponentially increases their personal risk and is possibly one of the most public facing jobs.

They deserve the respect of being categorized for the vaccine ahead of the general public, in reflection of the risk they are at on a daily basis.

Jessica Motl
Wauwatosa WI

From: [James Hagner](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC; jeff@amazon.com](mailto:jeff@amazon.com)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 7:44:15 AM

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I think it is an insult to have grocery personel excluded from Phase 1B, in direct defiance of the CDC guidance.

The committee must include Grocery Workers in Phase 1B as recommended by the CDC.

My name is James Hagner and I work full time at Whole Foods Milwaukee. I have been working the entire pandemic as a customer facing employee. I cashier and interact with hundreds of people every day. That's a lot of exposure for an ex essential worker. To be talked of as a hero and not be included in Phase 1B. To be put behind prisoners, people who have committed crimes, people who can't function as part of a society. To be behind that, is embarrassing.

I've always thought that Amazon and Whole Foods has done a better job handling the pandemic than government...

You prove that with this decision to exclude grocery workers.

Fuck you.

James Hagner

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James G. Hagner

From: [Sweeney, Scott](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1b COVID-19 vaccine public comment
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 7:38:04 AM

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Phase 1b should absolutely include front line grocery workers. This group has been putting themselves in harms way serving their communities since day one of the pandemic. Serving all, working tirelessly and doing it with a great sense of pride in providing food on the table for their friends and neighbors.

Grocery workers were deemed essential when people were panic buying but now are not. Hard to understand except they are not politically essential to politicians.

Do not dismiss this group essential people that deliver full grocery shelves for our communities. Include grocery workers in phase 1b.

Sincerely-
Scott Sweeney

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From: smurray3@wi.rr.com
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 7:34:56 AM

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Grocery store workers should be in the 1b phase. They have more daily public interaction than most public facing workers.

Do not place prisoners (who have limited public interaction) above grocers.

Stop wasting time—get the vaccine in the arms of the public. Please spend time getting a better faster roll-out place for vaccine. This is too slow.


Sandra Murray

From: [Barbara Lodde](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: VACCINE SUB COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 7:23:46 AM

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I was reading the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel article about grocers. These individuals who were considered "essential" along with meat packing plant workers were required to go to work. They didn't have the option of staying home. President Trump made them "essential". Now we are not treating them as such. These individuals should be included in this group 1b. If necessary, prioritize the people who come in contact with the general public as higher in 1b. Keep everyone in 1b.

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Barbara Lodde


From: [Seth Moore](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 7:11:11 AM

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I was surprised and shocked to learn that the subcommittee was not recommending the grocery store workers be included in the second round of vaccine rollouts. Grocery store workers have been on the front line of the pandemic since it began putting their lives on the line everyday. They haven't had the option of staying home and safe like other essential workers such as teachers or hairdressers. We owe these workers the chance to be vaccinated and get safe for serving our community and being heroes during this crisis. The fact that mink farmers are being prioritized over grocery store workers seems ridiculous, it signals to me that we care more about the small amount of money we make from minks than we do about the lower middle class workers going out there and putting their lives on the line every day.

Please reconsider doing the Christian thing and putting grocery store workers on the list as well.

Regards,
Seth

From: [Jessica Boucher](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1b
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 7:08:54 AM

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I am writing to encourage the state to include grocery store workers.

They are at an extremely high risk. Think about it prior to COVID did you go to a grocery sick or with a cold? The truth is everyone has done it. People will continue to do it.

Thanks for considering this.

Thanks to all of you for doing all you have done and will continue to do.

Be well!

Jessica Boucher

From: [Jan and John Carroll](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 6:49:05 AM

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Hello,

I just read that food workers won't be included on the list of people who are next in line to receive COVID-19 vaccines. Mink farmers come before the thousands of people who open my grocery store at 6:00 so that I can safely shop for food.

That is so wrong. The people who work at my Pick and Save are worn out, and it is so hypocritical to call them essential workers, who work for low pay, expect them to show up every day, THEN refuse them the vaccine.

Please, be better and rectify this gross error in fairness.

Sincerely,

Jan Carroll

From: [Leah Busse](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B and Grocery Store Workers
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 6:21:04 AM

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

Dear SDMAC Vaccine Subcommittee Members-

My name is Leah Busse, and I am the Assistant Site Director at Willy Street Grocery Cooperative North, one of 3 retail locations that serve our Madison community.

When Covid-19 brought the rest of Wisconsin to lock down, I watched my team of over 100 staff members at our North location come to work. I watched the staff members of our other locations come to work. And I have watched them continue to work tirelessly through this entire pandemic. I have witnessed their bravery as people came into the grocery store one last time before going to quarantine. I have watched them risk their health every single day since March. I've watched our staff continue to work to serve our community and help people have access to food, something that our neighbors can not live without. We have also seen an increase in need as restaurants were closed and more and more people were shopping for food to be at home. We did not close our doors.

Grocery store workers have continued to be on the front lines working with the public and it is unacceptable that they would not be considered in Phase 1B. They have put themselves and their families at risk day in and day out to be there for our community. We have 360 dedicated employees that have worked to find safe methods for our customers to shop, and it is time we show these employees how much they mean by placing them in this phase as they continue to work each day for our community.

Grocery store workers are one of the unsung heroes of the community, serving up such a basic need, it is appalling that they would not be included in Phase 1B. I urge you to reconsider, to show your appreciation for their dedication to you and our community over the entirety of the pandemic, and to put their safety first as they continue to show up each and everyday to help ensure people have access to food.

Thank you for your consideration,

Leah M. Busse

gm

--

Leah Busse

Assistant Store Director

Willy Street Co-op North

2817 N. Sherman Avenue

Madison WI 53704

(608) 471-4422

From: [Evan Olson](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 11:21:23 PM

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Dear Committee Member,

Dear Subcommittee Members:

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

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

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

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

Nationally, the CDC has recommended that grocery workers be included in group 1b, and if they are not included by the group, the state of Wisconsin would be going against what the overwhelming majority of states have decided is right.

While I personally am not as vulnerable to the virus's effects as some others are, because of my work I am in close contact with many people who are far more vulnerable than I am. Because of the circumstances of my work there is only so much masks and social distancing can do if I become infected. Further, as the study above found, I and my coworkers are much more likely to be asymptomatic than the average person infected, which only increases the danger of our not being vaccinated.

The subcommittee believes that those ages 70 and above should be a part of group 1b. I agree. However, public opinion polls have shown that not everyone is willing to get the vaccine for various reasons. So the next best thing for those 70 and above who are unwilling to receive vaccination would be for the people with whom they are in close contact to be vaccinated, which includes us.

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

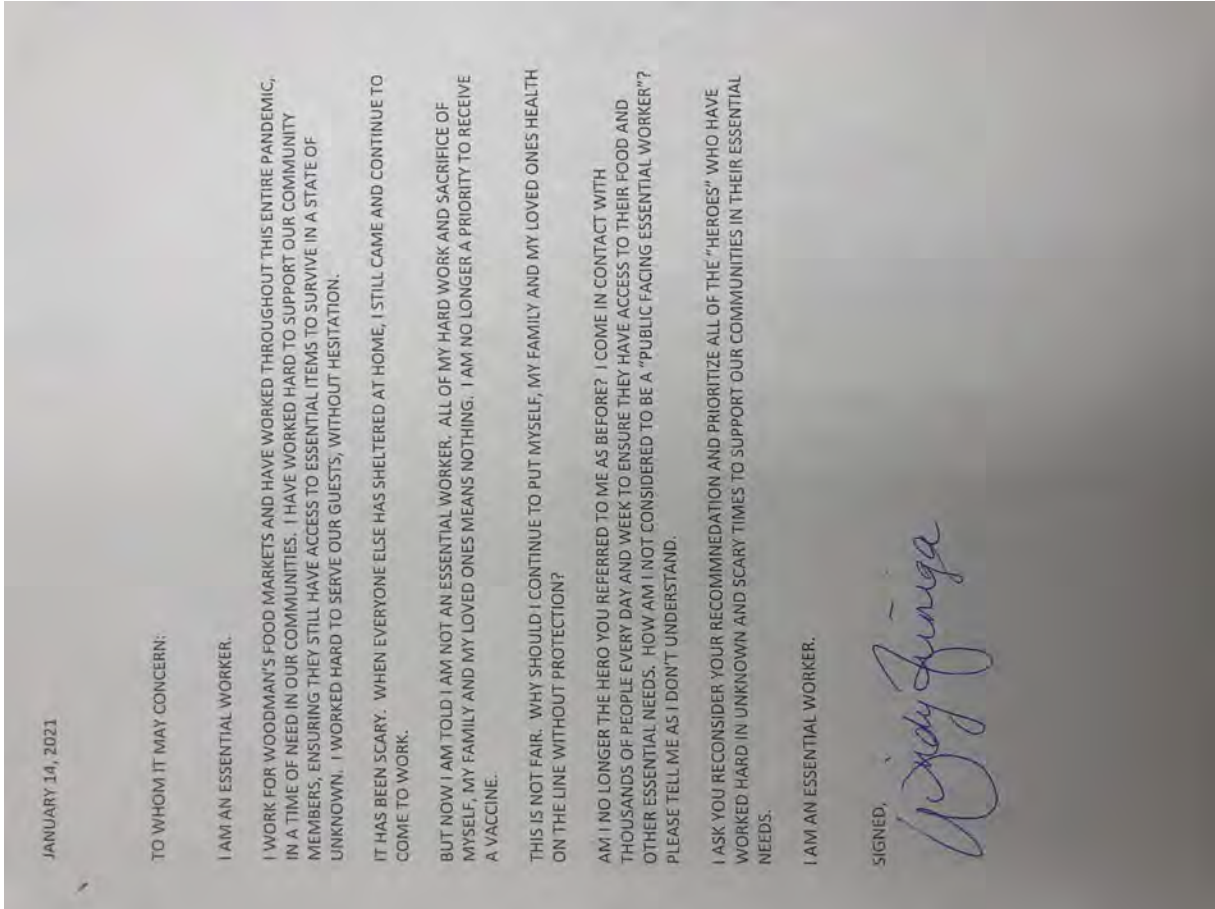
Sincerely ,
Evan Olson

[REDACTED]



From: [Windy and Roberto Zuniga](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Essential worker
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 10:33:49 PM

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From: [Annabelle Hoth](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 10:10:03 PM

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Dear Committee Member,

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,
Annabelle Hoth



From: [Andy Bergstrom](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Next vaccine round
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 10:06:57 PM

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For the duration of the entire pandemic, how many times have you gone to a store in person, to buy food? Well, unless you are very clever, you've showed up and either touched, breathed, or spread some coronavirus to the staff at that store. The most obvious source of coronaviruses are retail stores. One employee at any food source usually breathes the same air as the whole town in one work week. Sick retailers still go to work, spreading more. Many people don't mean to do this. People put food and jobs as an exception, and a necessity, turn a blind eye to safety, and end up running this covid spreading machine forever. Vaccinate the employees at all major grocery stores and food distribution warehouses in phase 1b. If not, soon :)

Thank you for listening,
Andy B

From: [Jody Warner](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee phase 1b lists
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 9:24:53 PM

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

Please reconsider placing grocery workers in group 1b to receive the Covid19 vaccine as soon as possible. These dedicated people are putting themselves and their families at risk to keep our nation functional. Eating is not optional, and we can no longer live off the land. Lets give these hard workers the recognition and protection they deserve. Thank you, Jody Warner

Get [Outlook for Android](#)

From: [Lisa Pliner](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 9:23:17 PM

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

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. I work both as an educator and in a grocery store. Both categories should fall under the 1b group.

Sincerely ,
Lisa Pliner

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

From: [Tonya Toth](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1B vaccine subcommittee
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 9:15:30 PM

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

Not including grocery works in phase 1b is the worse thing you can do. I have been an essential worker since the pandemic started, we are not allowed to work from home. If it wasn't for us you wouldn't have been able to purchase food. We put ourselves at risk every single day coming into contact with thousands upon thousands people who are slowly starting to not wear masks. Customers are so tired of wearing masks I am seeing more and more people not wearing them which puts us in a high risk category. Please reconsider and put us in Phase 1B we were essential even when daycare providers closed their doors we stayed open so YOU can have food. We were there for you guys its time for you guys to be there for us and appreciate all we have done during the pandemic and grant us to be accepted into Phase 1B.

Sincerely An Essential Grocery Worker

From: [Katie Stubbendick](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee - Phase 1b
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 9:03:45 PM

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

Hello,

I am an elementary school educator and parent of a child with diabetes from Madison. I'm grateful for the work you have invested in ensuring that the vaccine is distributed efficiently to Wisconsin residents, beginning with those most vulnerable.

I believe that food systems (including grocery) workers should be included in phase 1B of the vaccine schedule. These employees are likely to have lower incomes, have less access to health insurance and sick leave, be public-facing, and are unlikely to be able to perform their duties remotely.

Thank you for your consideration,
Katie Hayden
Madison, WI

From: [Lester Mayer](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee - Phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 8:20:42 PM

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

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing in support of having grocery store workers included in the next phase 1B group of persons to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. My employer is the owner of nine grocery stores in the northern and western Milwaukee suburbs.

In Governor Evers' stay-at-home order in the early stages of the pandemic, grocery stores were considered essential businesses that did not have to close their doors. The early stages of the pandemic felt like Black Friday everyday with the crowded aisles, hoarding of certain supplies and many empty aisle shelves as the supply chain could not initially keep up with demand. For a 2+ month stretch, I worked overtime every week, with multiple weeks approaching 60 hours of work. Working 60 hours a week consistently took a physical toll on my body, increasing the risk of contracting the virus.

Every customer interaction is a potential exposure. I share my house with my 87 year old mother and am my 91 year old aunt's primary caregiver. I simply cannot afford to take chances of exposing myself to the virus and bringing it home and exposing either Mom or my aunt. While the majority of customers follow the mask mandate, many customers refuse to follow it. That exposes me and my co-workers more.

In closing, if grocery stores were considered essential businesses and not forced to shut down, then grocery store workers are essential workers who should be vaccinated at the earliest opportunity.

Thank you for the opportunity to chime in with my opinion.

Lester Mayer
Port Washington WI

From: [Charlene Riese-Hattori](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Grocery workers should be 1b
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 8:11:28 PM

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

Charlene Riese-Hattori
Hartford

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Michael Smaha](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: SUBJECT LINE: CMI Comments for the Vaccine Subcommittee RE: Phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 8:06:22 PM
Attachments: 1-16-21 CMI Comment Letter to WI DHS.pdf

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

Members of the WI SDMAC,

Attached, please find comments submitted by the Can Manufacturers Institute to the Vaccine Subcommittee. Please let me know if you have any questions. Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Best regards,

Mike Smaha
Vice President, Government Relations
Can Manufacturers Institute
1730 Rhode Island Ave., NW
Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20036
(m): 202-876-4347
.gov

January 16, 2021

Wisconsin State Disaster Medical Advisory Commission (SDMAC)
Vaccine Distribution Subcommittee
1 West Wilson Street
Madison, WI 53703

RE: Recommendations for the Wisconsin Department of Health Services for COVID-19 Vaccine Priority Group 1B

VIA EMAIL: DHSSDMAC@dhs.wisconsin.gov

Dear Members of the SDMAC:

The Can Manufacturing Institute (CMI or Institute) supports the efforts of the Wisconsin (WI) State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee (SDMAC) to provide the WI Department of Health recommendations which ensure the most effective and efficient distribution of approved COVID-19 vaccine.

As the SDMAC finalizes its recommendations for implementation of vaccine Priority Group 1B, CMI strongly urges food and beverage can manufacturing employees in WI be included in this priority group for vaccine deployment, along with the rest of the food and agricultural sector.

CMI is the U.S. trade association representing the metal can industry. Wisconsin is home to five can making plants and two sales offices with over 1,000 employees. Early in the pandemic, the Institute was successful in achieving the listing of metal can plant employees as essential workers under the Department of Homeland Security's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency's (CISA) ["ADVISORY MEMORANDUM ON ENSURING ESSENTIAL CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE WORKERS' ABILITY TO WORK DURING THE COVID-19 RESPONSE."](#) Workers involved in the "production of food packaging" were included in their definition of food manufacturer workers and suppliers as states began shutting down businesses to support compliance with stay-at-home orders. That designation allowed metal can plants to remain open so they could meet the critical needs of their customers and ensure continuity of the food supply chain across the nation. Those plants operate seven days and week, twenty-four hours a day.

IMPACT ON THE WI CAN MAKING SECTOR

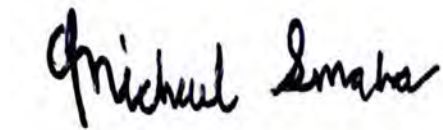
Can making plants typically require more than 70 percent of employees to be on location to perform their jobs. These essential women and men cannot work from home.

Since the start of the pandemic, CMI member companies have reported over one hundred employees in Wisconsin alone, who have tested positive and hundreds of others who have had to quarantine as a result of possible contact with people who potentially could have contracted COVID-19.

Absenteeism rates at some can plants have reached as high as 15 percent at various times throughout the course of the pandemic, resulting from quarantines and positive test results. The year 2020 saw a substantial demand for food and beverage cans, and 2021 is expected to see increased demand as the state of the pandemic continues. Keeping the over 1,000 can workers in Wisconsin healthy, safe and vaccinated against the virus will allow the industry to continue fulfilling its vital role in supplying the state and the country with critical food and beverage.

In summary, CMI respectfully requests the SDMAC keep the food sector and its suppliers in Priority Group 1B for vaccine allocation. I appreciate your attention and consideration of our comments. Please contact me if I can answer any questions you might have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Smaha". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "M".

Michael Smaha
Vice-President, Government Relations
Can Manufacturers Institute

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

JANUARY 14, 2021

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I AM AN ESSENTIAL WORKER.

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

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

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

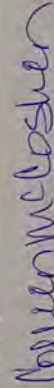
THIS IS NOT FAIR. WHY SHOULD I CONTINUE TO PUT MYSELF, MY FAMILY AND MY LOVED ONES HEALTH ON THE LINE WITHOUT PROTECTION?

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

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

I AM AN ESSENTIAL WORKER.

SIGNED,



Sent from my iPhone

From: [william woodward](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 7:16:45 PM

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

Dear Committee Member,

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,
william woodward



From: [Sunil Aghi](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee - Phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 7:02:15 PM

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

Dear Sirs / Madam:

Please include Grocery store workers, in the next set of priority for COVID-19 vaccinations.

Thanks
Sunil Aghi


Consumer of WI Grocers and concerned citizen

From: [Dawnw3296](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: My grocers are ESSENTIAL
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 6:23:39 PM

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

I really can't believe the news article I just read that told me grocers were NOT considered essential workers for the COVID-19 vaccine. How is this possible? I trusted my grocers to be A) Open
B) Stocked
C) Safe

They have *essentially* kept me fed, hydrated, and healthy through my isolation during the pandemic for the better part of a year, as they have nearly every citizen of this state. How could you **not** consider them essential??

PLEASE reevaluate this poor decision.

Sincerely,
A Wisconsinite Grateful for her grocers (and restaurateurs as well).
Dawn Wallander
Manitowoc, WI

From: [Marge Pestlin](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 6:22:36 PM

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

Dear Committee Member,

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,
Marge Pestlin

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

From: [David or Karen Sullivan](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 6:20:34 PM

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

To: Vaccine SubCommittee

Date: January 16, 2021

I am writing to urge you to include grocery store workers in the 1B phase of the vaccine roll out schedule. They have been risking their lives, shopping and delivering groceries to our cars and doors for us seniors who are immunocompromised since Day 1 of the pandemic. In fact, they have been doing it for the general public and they are always so cheerful. For many of us, they have been one of the few contacts we have had with the outside of our homes for almost a year now.

I have appreciated their dedication and selflessness in making sure we can all get nutritious food! I have observed countless numbers of customers without masks going into the grocery stores early on and even way into the pandemic. The lack of respect and caring for their well being smacked of "privilege" from the non-maskers and was appalling to me! But, still these workers soldiered on, even with the unsafe conditions! I venture to say there are still people who refuse to follow the masking mandate, leaving these workers very vulnerable especially with the even more contagious mutation of the virus now among us!

For goodness sake, let's at least recognize how important they are to all of us and treat them as VERY Essential workers because THEY ARE!!

And, I would also like to see you follow the CDC's recommendations to include senior citizens over the age of 65 in the 1B phase. There have been a large number of deaths in the 60-69 age group and think that, at that age, many have co-morbidities that add risk beside their age factor.

Thanks for listening and considering my recommendations.

Sincerely,

Karen Sullivan



From: [JAConner108](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 5:34:06 PM

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

To Whom It May Concern

I am hoping that your committee has not forgotten about the GROCERY STORE WORKERS - you know the people who have worked day in and day out so the rest of the people in this state can get food. We were unable to stay home when the "Stay at home order" was enacted. WE HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE ON A WEEKLY BASIS AND LET ME TELL YOU WE ARE NEVER SIX FEET AWAY FROM ANYONE IN THE STORES. WE HAVE HAD NUMEROUS COWORKERS FELLED BY THIS VIRUS. Have you ever considered any of that? Probably not, as long as you get your food. You need to be thankful for us, and make sure that we are prioritized.

Julie Conner



From: [Brent Sschroeder](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 5:08:24 PM

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

To whom it may concern:

I am an essential worker.

I work for Woodman's Food Markets and have worked throughout this entire pandemic. I have worked hard to support our community members, ensuring they still have access to essential items to survive in these uncertain times. I worked and continue to work through these trying, stressful times; putting myself and my family at risk, but now I am told that I'm no longer a priority to receive a vaccine.

I come into contact with thousands of people every day and week to ensure they have access to their food and other essential needs, and yet I'm now being told I'm not a "public facing essential worker?" Why should I continue to risk my health and the health of my family without protection?

I ask you to reconsider your recommendation and prioritize all of the "heroes" who have stood up and done their best to keep our state, its people, and its economy running in these dangerous conditions.

Sincerely,
Brent Schroeder
Woodman's Foods

From: [Drew Ryan](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 5:00:14 PM

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

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. These are people working tirelessly work huge public contact.

Sincerely ,
Drew Ryan

[REDACTED]

From: [Wendy Kirsling](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee-Phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 4:36:57 PM

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

I strongly believe Grocery Store workers should be included in the Phase 1B vaccine rollout. We have been tirelessly working with the public and continue to be at risk of being exposed to COVID-19 everyday.

Wendy Kirsling

From: [DALE DEGENEFFE](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Fwd: ♀PLEASE CONSIDER US
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 4:23:33 PM

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

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Karen Degeneffe <KARENDEGENEFFE@yahoo.com>
Date: January 16, 2021 at 4:07:48 PM CST
To: Dpdegeneffe@sbcglobal.net
Subject: Fwd: ♀PLEASE CONSIDER US

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Karen Degeneffe <KARENDEGENEFFE@yahoo.com>
Date: January 16, 2021 at 1:23:19 AM CST
To: DHSSDMAC@dhs.wisconsin.gov
Subject: ♀PLEASE CONSIDER US

Hi

Was hoping to see something about face to face waitress/waiters

Unfortunately, to do my job - I have to put my face within a foot/ or closer distance - of each of my customers "unmasked " talking face-several times per meal. (Serving/clearing food- drinks/wine- fine dining)

Again, unfortunately, My profession has already suffered dearly from lost wages this year(my personal income is about half of last year)

All the "to go " food - supporting local restaurants is But, REALLY benefits business owners and keeps kitchen workers going- who

really have no customer contact ...

But the face to (bare) face customer contact falls to us waitstaff- and as we know- people still feel like it's essential to be able to eat in restaurants..... SO- if the state can't/won't shut down sit down food service- we are still out there waiting on the idiots who want to have social gatherings/ weddings etc...

Something else worth considering is the fact that since I have close contact with many people during a shift - if I get the virus and don't know it - I , along with others in my profession, can potentially infect quite a few people in a short time period

So- PLEASE consider putting us under essential workers with higher than average risk of infection - AND higher than average risk of infecting others

Thanks for your consideration,
Karen

Sent from my iPhone

From: [marla.wiersum](#)
To: [DHS.SDMAC](#)
Subject: Grocery workers
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 4:20:20 PM

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

I just want to say that grocery workers risk their life every day to go to work and feed America - and we are not considered front line workers - why not! I think that we should be one of the first to get vaccinated! We have customers coming in that refuse to wear masks or take any type of precautions which puts everyone - customers included at risk... So please let us know WHY we are not being considered "Frontline workers"
Thank you

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.

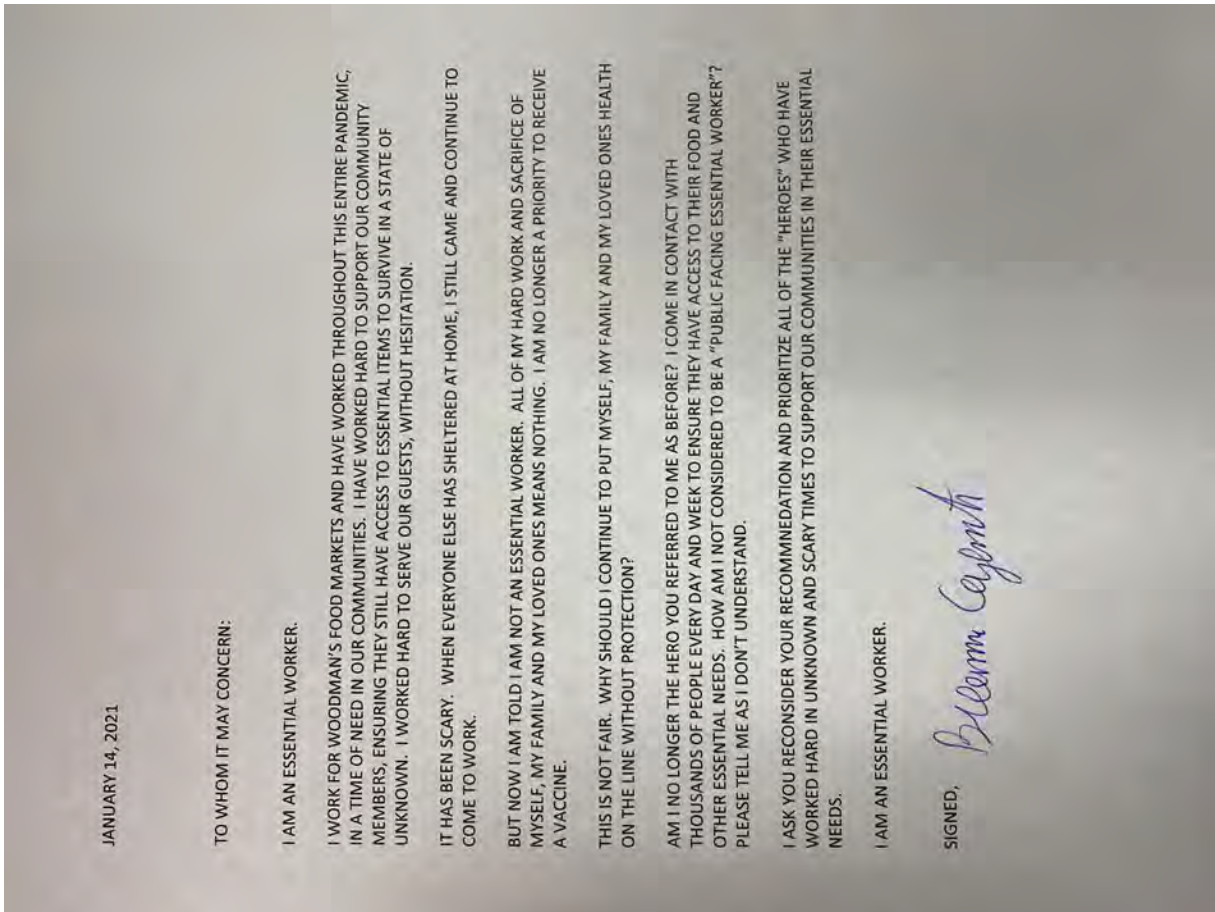
I AM AN ESSENTIAL WORKER.

SIGNED,

Jacqueline Buckner

From: [Breanna Carpenter](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 4:13:13 PM

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



From: [Dawn Margrabe](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 4:09:49 PM

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

Dear Committee Member,

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

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

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

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

On a different note. If enough grocery workers got sick and can't go to work, the food supply chain would collapse. You wouldn't have to worry about dying from a virus, you would die from starvation. THINK ABOUT THAT.

Without the grocery stores the Feed America shelves would be very bare, thus a whole of people would go hungry.

Sincerely,
Dawn Margrabe



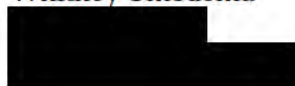
From: [Whitney Smedema](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 4:01:31 PM

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

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. We come to work every day putting ourselves at risk so that people can get the food/products they need. We deserve to be protected because we are a vital industry that literally everyone utilizes on a weekly basis. Thank you.

Sincerely ,
Whitney Smedema



From: [Anne Chermak](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 3:47:32 PM

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

Dear Committee Member,

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

Thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Anne Chermak

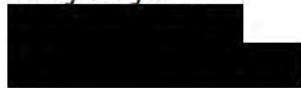


From: [MARY HAYDEN](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Immunization priority group 1b
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 3:39:54 PM

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

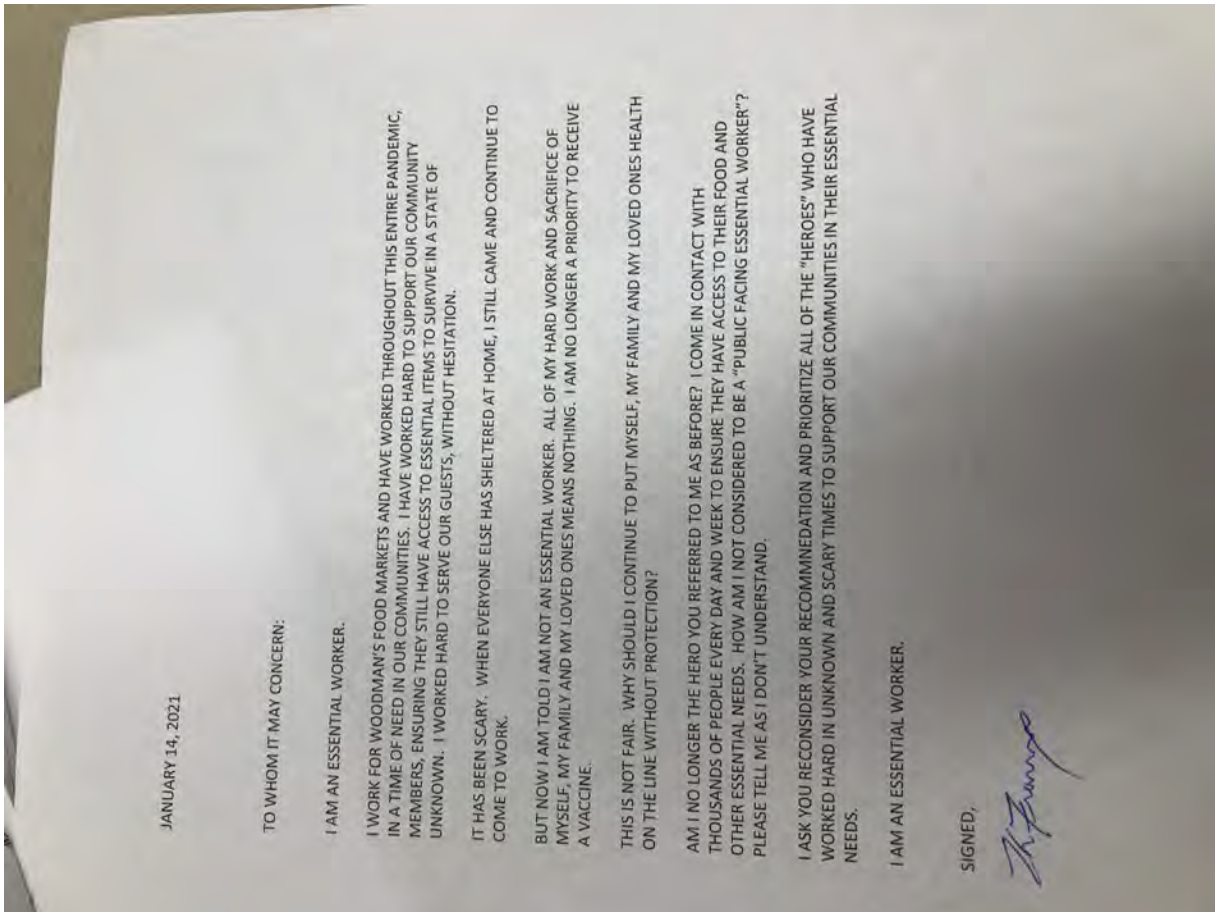
I am asking that you include grocery store workers in the list of the 1b group to be vaccinated. They are public facing essential workers. It is necessary for almost everyone to visit grocery stores, and I will feel safer if the staff has received the vaccine. I also believe that because these employees must work with the public, it will slow the spread, and also help those workers who are often lacking benefits of paid time off and health insurance.

Thank you,
Mary Hayden



From: [Kirk France](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Petition
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 3:31:57 PM

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



DHSSDMAc@dhs.wisconsin.gov

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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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.

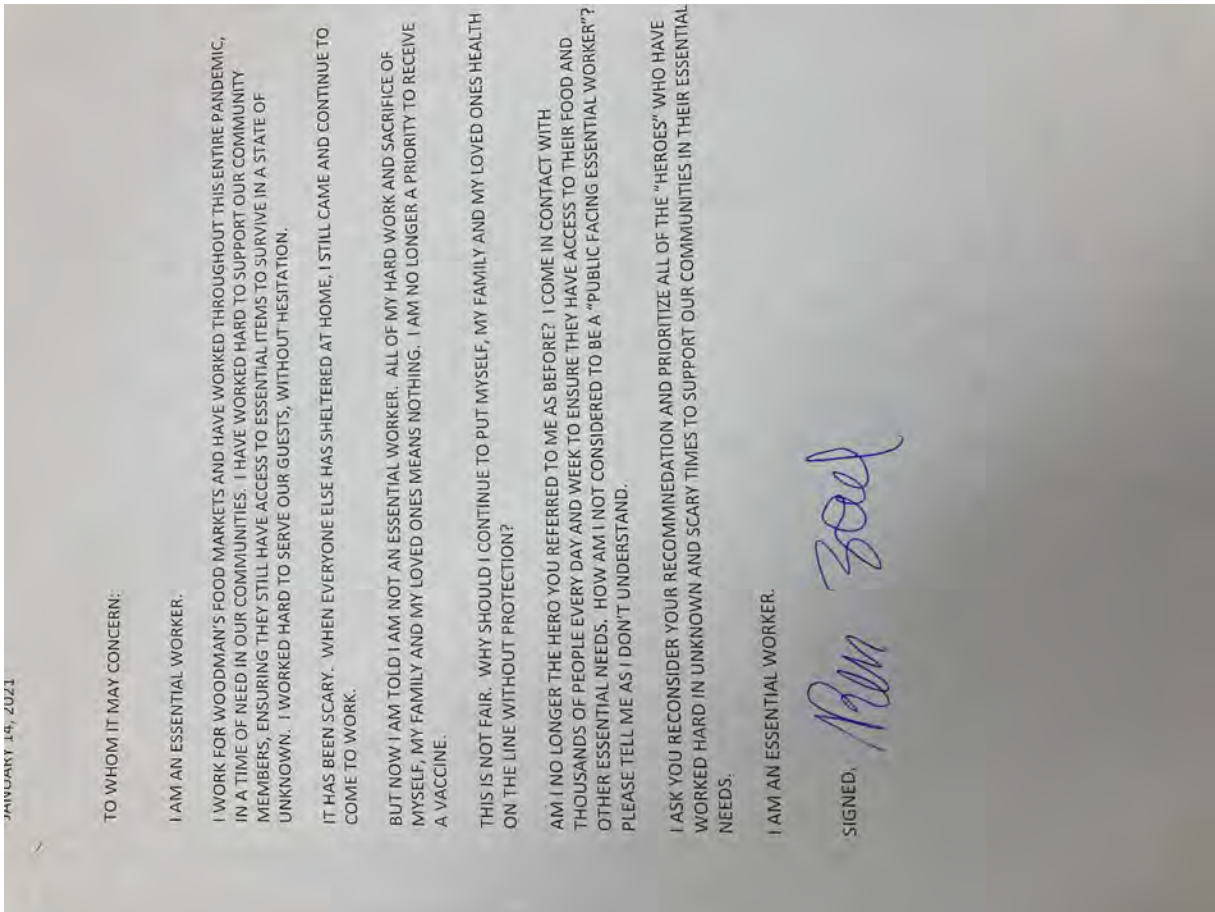
I AM AN ESSENTIAL WORKER.

SIGNED,



From: [B Zobel](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Petition
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 3:23:57 PM

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



From: hvruden@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Virginia VonRuden](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Requesting inclusion of vaccines for frontline, essential hunger-relief workers in phase 1B of the Wisconsin State Disaster Medical Advisory vaccine subcommittee recommendation
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 3:20:37 PM

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

Dear Wisconsin State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee Vaccine Subcommittee,

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

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

- The Cashton Cupboard and Closet serves clients in Monroe and Vernon County. Our food pantry has stayed open all during the pandemic. We are serving at least 300 families per month. Our thrift store reopened in July. Money made selling gently used items allows us to buy food for our clients. Fifty volunteers serve all of these families. All of us are age 65 and older. Most are in their 70s and 80s. We follow strict guidelines in order to keep our volunteers and clients safe. Our food pantry is vital to our clients. We turn no one away.

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

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

Sincerely,
Mrs. Virginia VonRuden



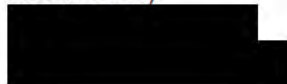
From: [Rachel Day](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 3:12:39 PM

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

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. Grocery workers are facing the public every day and have been throughout this pandemic and are at a high risk of contracting the virus. They should not be downgraded in their priority of receiving the vaccine.

Sincerely ,
Rachel Day



From: [Carley Hanko](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 2:51:14 PM

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

Dear Committee Member,

Dear SDMAC Vaccine Subcommittee Members:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,

Carley Hanko
Metcalfe’s Market

726 N Midvale Blvd
Madison, WI 53705

Sincerely ,
Carley Hanko
206 Creek Edge Ct
Waunakee, WI 53597

From: [Rodney Sexton](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Covid vaccine
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 2:45:10 PM

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

Hello I work at a grocery store where we see thousands of people a day come in and out of the store. For grocery store employees not to be included in 1b for vaccination is a slap in the face. We have been open the whole time because we are essential. We have faced customers face to face face to mask or mask to mask for a year while dealing with this virus. The CDC recommended that grocery store employees should be next. I just don't understand what justifies to take us off the list compared to except the elderly for the higher risk of death. There is no one who sees more people in a day in and out basis. We are giving a mask and told to hope for the best. The vaccine needs to go into arms in the 1b phase. If we all get sick again than what will happen. No one will get food or everyday supplies to survive. If that done not put us on the top of the priority I don't know what does. We see the most people with all but a mask to protect us. We have been open since day so we were essential before but not know is hearth breaking and quite frankly disrespectful. Do the right thing grocery store employees need to be included in 1b phase. Thank you for your time and have a good day.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Kyle Roders](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee phase 1b
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 2:36:23 PM

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

Hello, I think 1b absolutely needs to include at risk and people living with them before essential workers. My mother is 63 in a wheelchair with multiple diseases and will most likely die if she contracts covid. The fact someone like this would receive the vaccine after young adults working in a grocery store makes no sense. If an essential worker has conditions they would still qualify under this. Please consider the people who are most at risk.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

From: [Clinton Woodman](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 2:20:17 PM

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

Dear Committee Member,

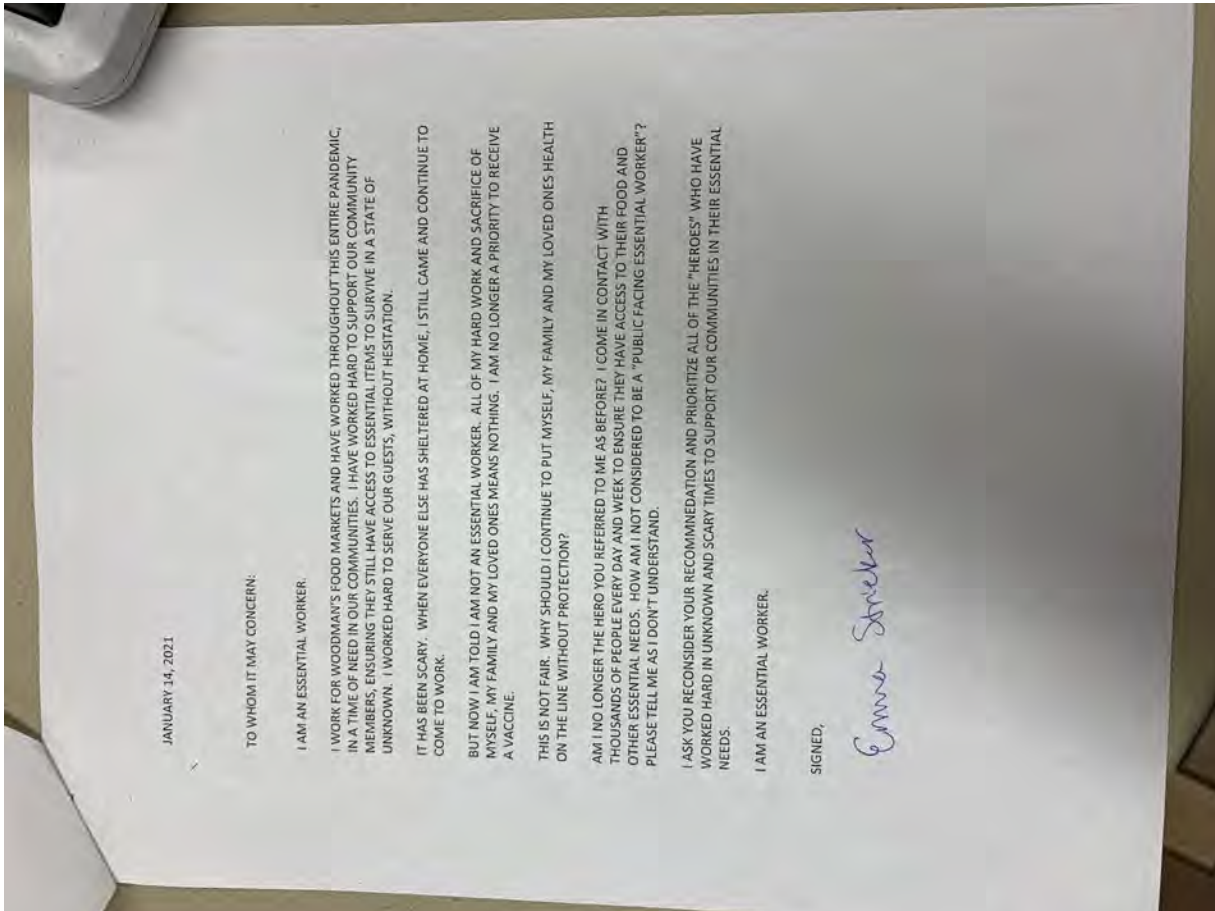
I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. If you go through with these recommendations Wisconsin would be the only state in the country to down grade grocery workers, going against CDC recommendations. Our workers are at a much higher risk to get Covid-19 than other groups you've included in phase 1b and this is just plainly not fair to food employees.

Sincerely,
Clinton Woodman



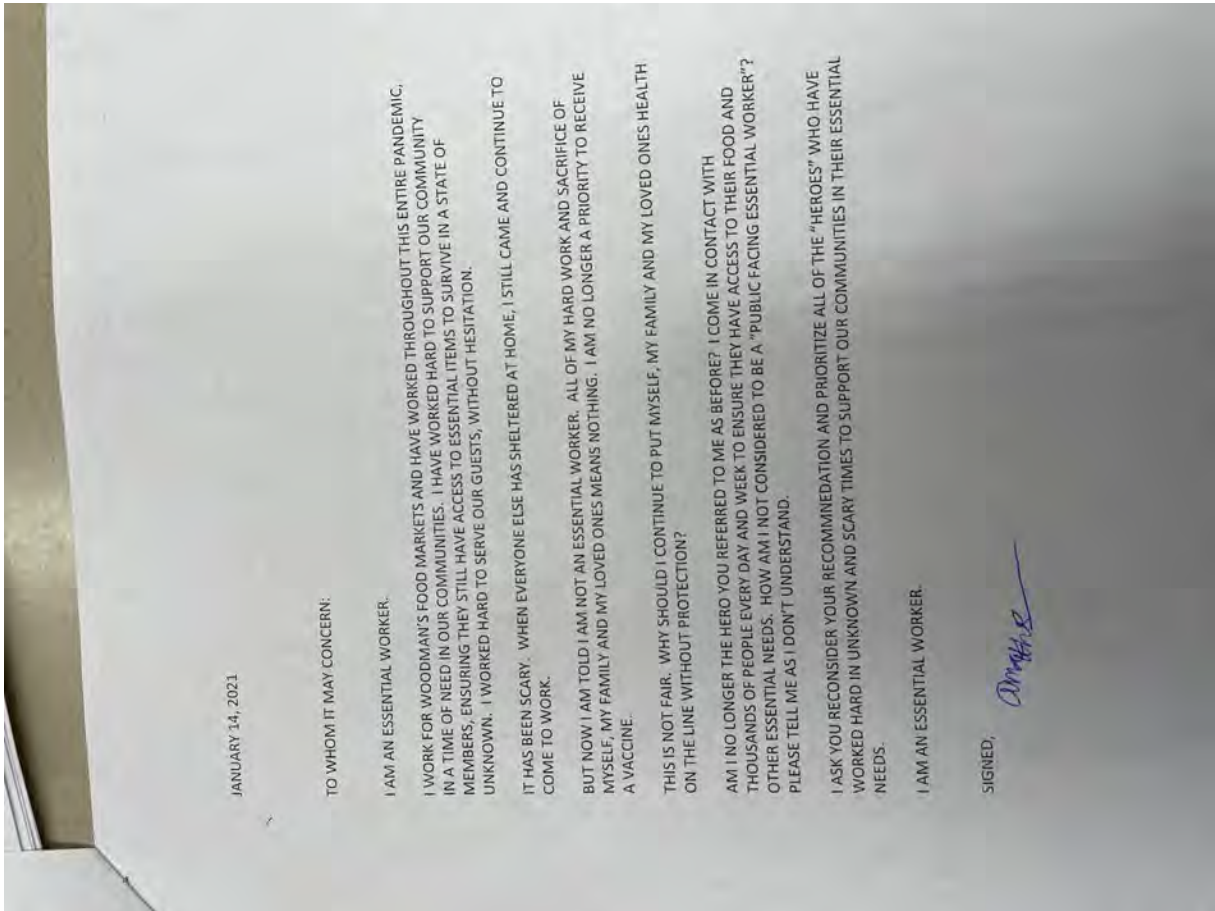
From: [Emma Strieker](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 2:16:01 PM

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



From: [Aaron Mathews](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 2:11:50 PM

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



JANUARY 14, 2021

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I AM AN ESSENTIAL WORKER.

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

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

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

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

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

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

I AM AN ESSENTIAL WORKER.

SIGNED,

Judson Pitt

From: [Pat](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1 b vaccine subcommittee
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 2:10:15 PM

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

To all

I am writing to your committee to encourage you to consider our group of volunteers food shelf workers to be considered as essential workers for phase 1B. I am currently the chairperson of our board for the Amery Area Food Pantry. We are strictly a volunteer manned pantry. We serve about 140-150 families a month. We no longer have the clients come into the pantry to shop, we fill boxes of food for them. They come into an area one at a time to pick up the boxes. We still have to see them, but we do try to keep our 6 feet distance and we do have them mask. Some of our patrons do have some physical conditions and mental health issues that we do have to get closer to help. Our volunteers are all retired and are in the 60-80 year old range. I would like to keep them as safe as we can during this pandemic. Our clients rely on pantry for food. Please consider us as essential to those in need in our community.

Thanks
Pat Waterman

Sent from my iPad

From: washburncountyfoodpantry@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kerry Russell](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Requesting inclusion of vaccines for frontline, essential hunger-relief workers in phase 1B of the Wisconsin State Disaster Medical Advisory vaccine subcommittee recommendation
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 2:06:58 PM

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

Dear Wisconsin State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee Vaccine Subcommittee,

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

Hi,

I'm the Washburn County Food Pantry Coordinator. We have a great group of volunteers providing groceries for our community. Many of our volunteers are in their 60's and 70's. Please consider us for the COVID-19 vaccine schedule 1B so we can continue helping others safely and in good health. There are many families that depend on this food each month.

We serve 40-70 households each week.

We've made a lot of adjustments over the last year to protect our volunteers but the vaccine would really help.

Thanks for your consideration,

Kerry Russell

The following is from our FMP contact:

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

- Hunger-relief workers and volunteers are the critical force behind the wellbeing of the record number of Wisconsinites facing food insecurity. One in eight Wisconsinites, including one in five Wisconsin kids, don't know where their next meal is coming from. The hunger-relief network is mobilized like never before to meet this need. Our network is serving about 60% more individuals than last year. And Wisconsin's Feeding America member food banks and partners distributed about 90 million unprecedented pounds of food to those experiencing food insecurity from March to September of 2020, that is 25 million more pounds than was distributed in all of fiscal year 2019.
- The hunger-relief frontline workers and volunteers serve individuals in vulnerable health situations. People experiencing food insecurity have a disproportionately high rate of chronic health conditions that put people at higher risk of severe COVID-19 complications. This population frequently has less access to consistent quality health care and insurance. Also, 23% of households served has at least one senior and we know that age is a good indicator for risk of severe COVID-19 complications or death. People of color disproportionately experience food insecurity and are also known to be at greater risk of severe COVID-19 complications.
- It is our duty to ensure the safety of those being served. Individuals being served and in contact with hunger-relief frontline workers have few other options but to seek assistance from food pantries and meal sites do not have a way to mitigate their COVID-19 risk. They cannot avoid the interaction with staff and volunteers and rely on the organization to help meet basic needs and provide them with the meals they need to live.
- The hunger-relief network relies heavily on volunteers to fulfill the mission, many (37%) of these volunteers are seniors. An estimated 52 percent of food pantries and meal sites report having no paid staff. Among the 46 percent of agencies with paid staff, the median number of paid full-time equivalent staff members reported is four. As a result, if staff or volunteers were to test positive for COVID-19 and potentially require other staff or volunteers to quarantine, food distribution operations would be greatly impacted.

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

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

Sincerely,
Mrs Kerry Russell



From: [kris.larson](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Grocers!
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 1:46:29 PM

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

Hi Friends!

Firstly thank you for all you do. It's a tough job, and not envious one bit of the tough decisions you are having to make.

Writing on behalf of the employees at our Grocery Store called Wagner Market here in Oshkosh. (www.wmgrocer.com).

I am certain you are getting a lot of emails like this one, however I figured it could not hurt to add a little more perspective. Our Downtown Market has of course been open every day during the pandemic. More so than even big box groceries, we felt it important to remain open to serve our community, as ours is the only grocery within walking distance for the approximately 18k residents in Oshkosh Central City. Without our employees willingness to work, it would have been much harder for lots of folks to get the food they need...and if that is not essential work in a pandemic, I am not sure what is.

It is extremely disappointing to think that in other states, those folks who did the exact same type of work are considered more essential than the same employees here.

I very much hope you will rethink your decision and include our grocery employees in schedule 1b as per CDC recommendations.

thanks much

-kris

kris larson


From: [Susan Grunwald](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 1:32:37 PM

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

Dear Committee Member,

PLEASE, PLEASE re-consideration those of us working in the grocery industry, everyday with our business open 15 to 24 hours each day. As you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations, we too have been here everyday, many working extra hours to make sure our customers are taken care of, especially the call in, drive-up, pick-up orders. Even with all of the unemployment, we have a very hard time finding people to work in our industries. So Please, please consider us here in the grocery stores everyday.

Thank You Susan Grunwald

Sincerely ,
Susan Grunwald

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

From: [Jennifer Becker](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 1:28:02 PM

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

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations because 1). Wisconsin would be the only state in the country to disregard CDC recommendations and downgrade food employees. 2) Food supply employees were essential during the pandemic and ensured that citizens had food and other necessary items. 3) We have over 50 or more employees and many customers that are exposed in the store every day. 4). 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.

Sincerely ,
Jennifer Becker



From: [Robert Zimmermann](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 1:23:33 PM

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

Dear Committee Member,

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

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

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

Sincerely,
Robert Zimmermann



From: [Julieann Andersen](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee and Phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 1:18:08 PM

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

To Whom it May Concern,

I volunteer for our food pantry in the town of Amery, WI. We have a population of about 3,500. Our food pantry serves about 150 families and individuals per month. At this time we are keeping our volunteers to a small number in order to control passing the virus. If one of us gets sick it will probably mean we have to close the pantry until we get through the quarantine process. This would mean our weekly clients would have to go without our food. Our volunteers are from 65 to over 80 years old. We feel it necessary that we get the vaccine as soon as possible in order to continue our volunteer work.

Please recommend that we are added to the essential workers and get the vaccine as soon as possible.

Thank you

Julie Andersen

Volunteer

From: [Andrew Tiarks](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee - Phase 1b
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 1:03:17 PM

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

Dear committee members,

I am writing this letter to you on my lunch break here at Discount Liquor in Milwaukee. Since the beginning of the pandemic, we have been told that we were "essential" and, even when most of the great State of Wisconsin was put into a stay-at-home order, we were told to remain open.

People needed groceries, and drinks, and we supplied both of these, and have continued to do so as best we can during these difficult times. We increased sanitation policies, we required mask use in the store, and we gave our employees agency to enforce our "no mask = no service" policy. All this, we did while waiting for a vaccine to come.

We were, and are, the front line. We do not claim to be as exposed as health care workers. We know that police and fire fighters are more essential than we are. What we do not understand, though, is why we are no longer included in the Wisconsin Phase 1b of vaccine distribution.

Please, help us out. Personally, I have not seen my partner since March 8th, 2020. She lives in Chicago and has a high-enough health risk to make it too dangerous for me, a person who is working with the public 48hrs a week, to visit her and possibly get her sick. My parents are both elderly, and they, too, have had to go on my "do not visit until I get a vaccine" list. I know that my story is not unique, so please help us who were once praised as "essential", but now feel sadly taken for granted.

Thank you for your time,
Andrew Tiarks



From: [deborah paprocki](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 1:01:01 PM

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

Please give priority for vaccines to grocery store workers in our state. I am over 65 but I can choose to go places or not to protect myself. Grocery workers are needed and they need to earn a living so they do not always have a choice. Many of my college students are grocery workers and I know some have had to work more hours because their parents have lost jobs due to Covid. At my grocery store most customers are good about wearing masks properly but we see a couple each week who do not. I feel terrible that the workers must still serve those ignorant and uncaring customers, I'm sure because otherwise the store would lose a customer. The workers are always cheerful even though these times are so difficult for everyone.

Please protect our **very very very essential grocery workers** by giving them vaccinations as soon as possible.

I know you will do the right thing because our state is a wonderful courageous and intelligent state.

Sincerely,

Deborah Paprocki, PhD.

From: [Daniel Bitz](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 12:55:52 PM

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

Dear Committee Member,

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,
Daniel Bitz



From: [Ed Clemons](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Wisconsin Department of Health Services - Thank you
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 12:38:36 PM

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

Thank you for your service to our Wisconsin community.

Please match CDC recommendations to include grocery store workers in Phase 1B of Wisconsin Covid vaccination eligibility.

Thanks again,

Ed Clemons

From: [Mike Olwig](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 12:08:35 PM

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

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. We have been on the Front Lines since the start and will continue to be.

Sincerely ,
Mike Olwig

[REDACTED]

From: [Julie Katzer](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 11:52:50 AM

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

Addressing the grocery workers not included in the tier of vaccine..how can this be ..we have been putting our life out there daily at risk to feed wi residents... everyday we worry are we going to become sick or bring it home to our families...we were considered frontline workers...for 10 months we have done this...if anyone needs the vaccine we do.. there is no way of knowing if a customer is sick...I beg you all to get us on an urgency of vaccine... Can't believe this is real..... sincerely Julie...a 10 month grocery essential worker.

From: [Michael Polski](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 11:42:40 AM

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

Dear Committee Member,

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,
Michael Polski



From: [john elias](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 11:33:57 AM

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

Dear Committee Member,

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,
john elias

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

From: [Peter W. Caton](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee: Phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 11:26:00 AM

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

Good morning.

Please include grocery workers/food workers in Phase 1B of the COVID-19 vaccine plan.

Grocery workers have been on the front line throughout the pandemic. Grocery workers, at great risk to themselves, continue to help keep our pantries stocked and our bodies nourished throughout these perilous times. Please give grocery workers a big “thank you” by vaccinating them in Phase 1B. Grocery workers need to be protected; grocery workers deserve to be protected.

Thank you for considering my recommendation.

Regards,

Peter W. Caton

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [Leslie Arnold](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 11:19:48 AM

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

Dear Committee Member,

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,

Leslie Arnold

Sincerely ,
Leslie Arnold

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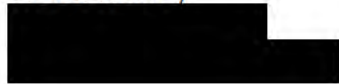
From: [Kevin Harvey](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 11:09:33 AM

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

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. Grocers have been considered essential workers for the last 9 months. Why is it now that the vaccine is available that we are not essential?

Sincerely ,
Kevin Harvey



From: [Duane Stegall](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 11:01:43 AM

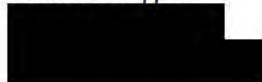
Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. We are on the front line and feeding our community during this pandemic and feel we are sacrificing our lives. I work sanitizing the carts people are using and my wife sanitizes every human touch surface.

Thank you for your consideration
Duane D Stegall and Jane M Stegall

Sincerely ,
Duane Stegall



From: [Pat Mersberger](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 10:47:30 AM

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Grocery workers were the most touted essential workers in March. What happened? They need protection, and deserve to be included in 1B rollout because of their interaction with the public (including the mask deniers!) and the stress level they have endured for the past 10 months.

Pat Mersberger

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.

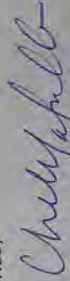
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I ASK YOU RECONSIDER YOUR RECOMMENDATION AND PRIORITIZE ALL OF THE "HEROES" WHO HAVE WORKED HARD IN UNKNOWN AND SCARY TIMES TO SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITIES IN THEIR ESSENTIAL NEEDS.

I AM AN ESSENTIAL WORKER.

SIGNED,



From: [Hall, Alexandra](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee - Phase 1b
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 10:30:11 AM
Attachments: image001.png

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

Dear Committee –

Thank you for the difficult and important work you are doing and for allowing a public comment period. I have two points I would like to make:

1. Grocery and food workers (including those who work in high-risk meat packing plants) are not included. While I agree that in general a store worker has only very brief contact with any one shopper and therefore lower risk of exposure than, say, an elementary school teacher with a dozen or more variably masked charges in their care for multiple hours in a day, I would like to point out that they are often more vulnerable members of society. Their jobs are often poorly paid, with no or poor benefits, no extended sick time or disability leave, etc., which has two ramifications. For one, they are more likely to still go to work when sick. For another, there are at much higher risk of economic and social devastation than a worker who has a job with good benefits. For these reasons, I would like them to be strongly considered for phase 1b.
2. Higher education is a much lower risk environment, in my opinion, than K-12. Our students choose to be present and are much more compliant with our mask and distancing mandates – they are also much easier to enforce in our environment. Additionally, many college-level courses are now offered online, and so many instructors have the option to teach remotely only. Finally, our classes last, at the most, 3 hours, as opposed to 7-8 hours of continuous contact for our elementary school colleagues, and we often have between just 2 and 5 hours of total student contact hours per day. I myself taught all in-person last semester and felt very safe. College instructors' risk is very low, in my estimation, unless they must teach specific manual skills that require close proximity. Even then, it seems as though our technical colleges have been very successful in mitigating spread. I would argue that higher education should not be included in Phase 1b. We are a much lower risk environment.

Thank you for considering these points.

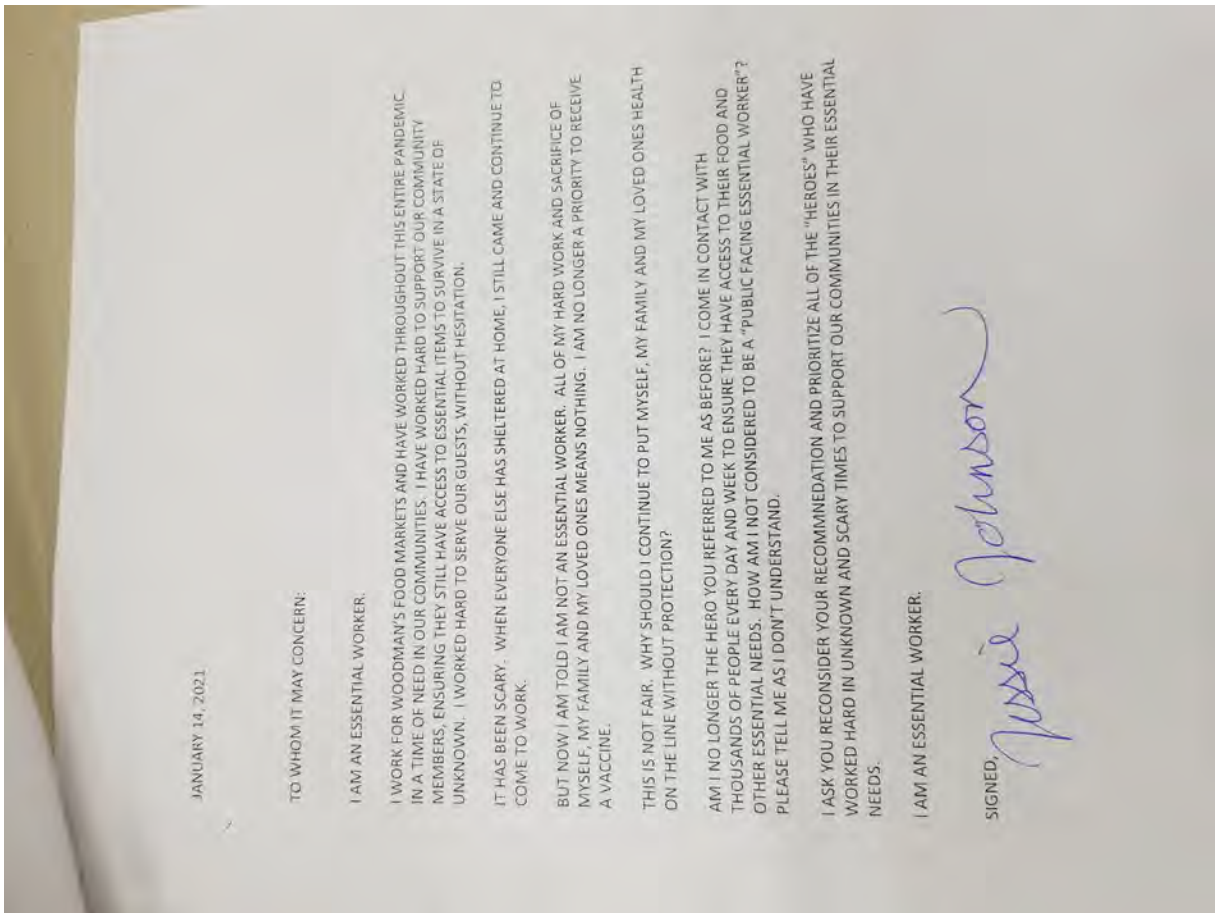
Sincerely,
Dr. Hall



ALEXANDRA HALL M.D.
Physician
Student Health Services
Senior Lecturer
Department of Biology
hallale@uwstout.edu
University of Wisconsin-Stout
Menomonie, WI 54751
<http://www.uwstout.edu>

From: [Jessie Beran](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 10:26:22 AM

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



[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

DHSSDMAC@dhs.wisconsin.gov

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

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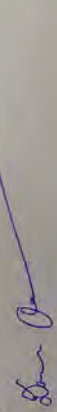
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I ASK YOU RECONSIDER YOUR RECOMMENDATION AND PRIORITIZE ALL OF THE "HEROES" WHO HAVE WORKED HARD IN UNKNOWN AND SCARY TIMES TO SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITIES IN THEIR ESSENTIAL NEEDS.

I AM AN ESSENTIAL WORKER.

SIGNED,



From: [Marilee Baas](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 10:20:28 AM

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

The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel is reporting that the subcommittee is recommending prioritizing prisoners and mink farmers (Mink Farmers?) ahead of essential workers like those that work in grocery stores and vital industries that allow those of us, like me, who are a part of the population that is most vulnerable to severe illness/death if contracting covid19. I have 3 of the co-morbidities the CDC states make me very vulnerable should I contract the virus, and I have done my part and have not left my home, except for Doctor appointments or curbside pickup of essentials, since the end of February. Without essential workers that pick and pack my groceries for curbside pickup, or delivery drivers who bring them to me and leave them on my porch, I may not have made it through 2020. I am anxious, myself, to be vaccinated, so that I can say good-bye to the mental health issues and fears that I will contract covid19 and not recover, but still think that the workers we hailed as essential during lockdowns should be given priority over prisoners and mink farmers (Mink Farmers?). My son, who lives with me, is one of those essential workers and knowing every day he comes home from work he could be bringing covid19 to me, something I may not recover from if I contract it, has become almost unbearable in the last year of being 'safe-at-home.' I imagine I am not the only at-risk state resident in the same situation.

Please reconsider your recommendations to include essential workers in grocery stores and other providers of what we have consistently called 'essential' to Wisconsin.

Thank you,
Marilee Baas

DHSSDMAC@dhs.wisconsin.gov

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I AM AN ESSENTIAL WORKER.

SIGNED,

Wick Kuzak

From: [Mary Billo](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: VACCINE SUBCOMMITTEE PHASE 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 10:17:56 AM

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

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 come 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 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 to reconsider your recommendation and prioritize all of the "HEROS" who have worked hard in unknown and scary times to support our communities in their essential needs.

I AM AN ESSENTIAL WORKER.....

MARY J BILLO

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JANUARY 14, 2021

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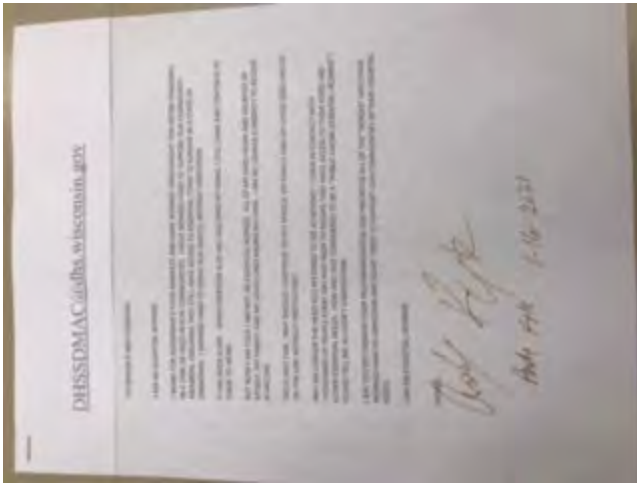
I AM AN ESSENTIAL WORKER.

SIGNED,

John H. Kalishet Sr
John H. Kalishet Sr

Sent from my iPhone

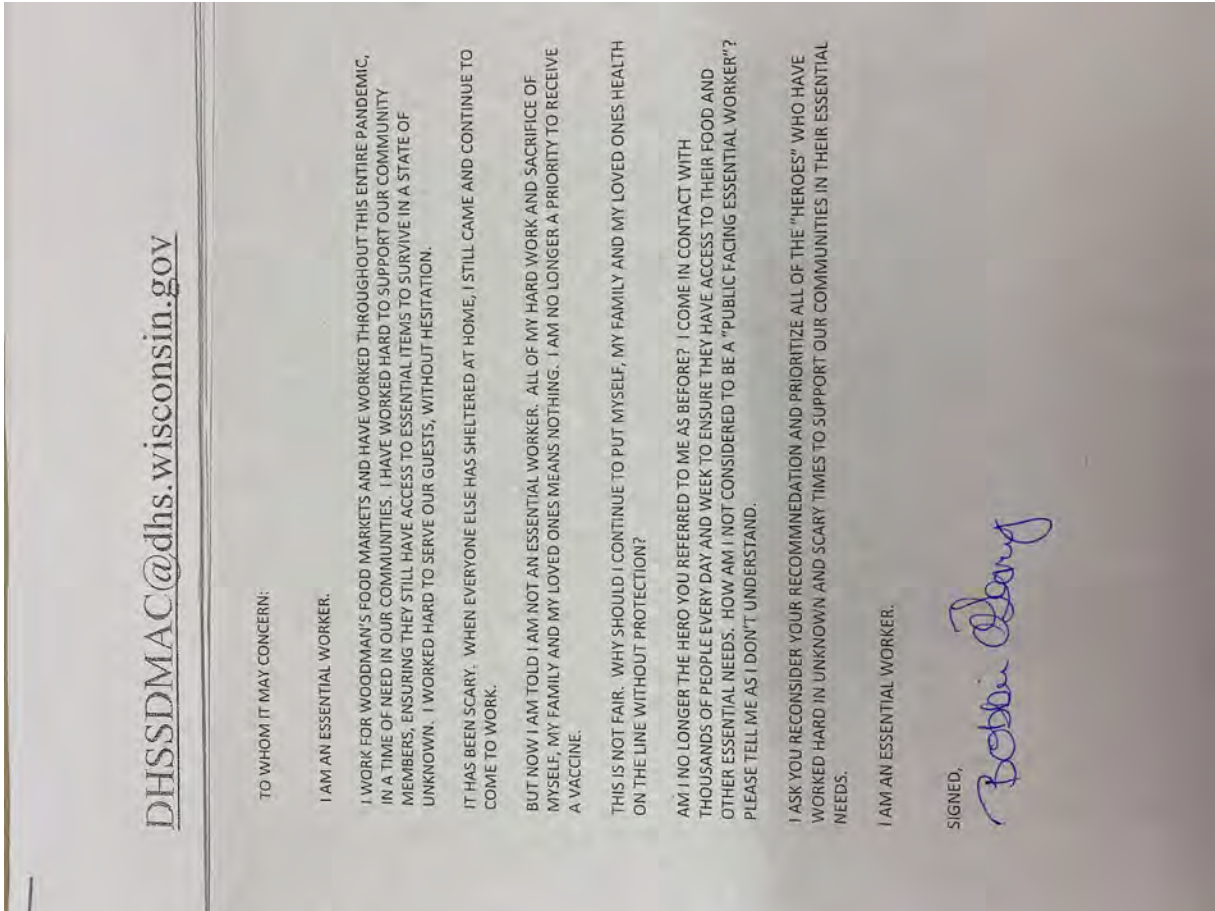
From: [Andrew Kyle](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Woodmans Grocery Store Worker COVID Vaccine
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 10:15:32 AM



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

From: [Bobbie O'leary](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 10:12:56 AM

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



[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

From: [SAMANTHA SULLIVAN](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 10:12:28 AM

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

JANUARY 14, 2021

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I AM AN ESSENTIAL WORKER.

SIGNED, *Samantha Sullivan*

From: [Renee Botta](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 10:09:22 AM

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

Dear Committee Member,

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,
Renee Botta

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

JANUARY 14, 2021

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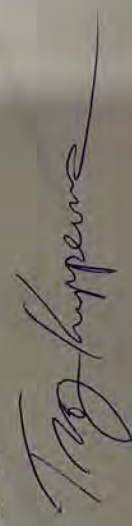
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SIGNED,



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Sent from my iPhone

DHSSDMAC@dhs.wisconsin.gov

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SIGNED,

Virginia Meier

From: [Thompson Family](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine group 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 10:05:46 AM

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

Hello,

Please include grocery workers in this group. We would be nowhere without a continual supply of food and necessities.

We saw all the hoarding earlier this year and grocery workers have come thru strong and we will always be dependent on them.

Please add GROCERY WORKERS to group 1B.

Thank you!

Melanie Thompson

From: [Mary Billo](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: COVID VACCINE LETTER
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 10:05:38 AM

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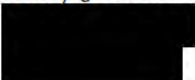
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I ask you to reconsider your recommendation and prioritize all of the "HEROS" who have worked hard in unknown and scary times to support our communities in their essential needs.

I AM AN ESSENTIAL WORKER.....

Mary J. Billo


From: [Maggie Snyder](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 10:04:26 AM

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

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. These are frontline workers who have been risking everything in the last year! They need to have access to vaccinations. This will be a great step in taking action on behalf of those who keep this country running, yet are paid very low wages and assume a lot of risk on behalf of all of us.

Thank you,

Sincerely,
Maggie Snyder



JANUARY 14, 2021

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I AM AN ESSENTIAL WORKER.

SIGNED,

Shanya W. Brown

From: [Katherine Knapp](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 10:00:57 AM

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

Dear Committee Member,

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,
Katherine Knapp



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.

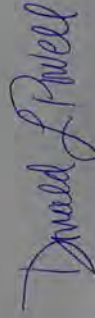
THIS IS NOT FAIR. WHY SHOULD I CONTINUE TO PUT MYSELF, MY FAMILY AND MY LOVED ONES HEALTH ON THE LINE WITHOUT PROTECTION?

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: [Julie Maiers](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 9:29:03 AM

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

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. Our daughter works at a grocery store and has put herself at risk to serve others. Please reconsider this very essential workforce!!

Sincerely ,
Julie Maiers

[REDACTED]

From: [Marri Grace](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 9:01:29 AM

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

Dear Committee Member,

You need to prioritize vaccinating grocery and retail workers as soon as possible in the 1b tier.

Sincerely ,
Marri Grace



From: [Adam Kristiansen](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Grocery workers
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 8:43:43 AM

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

Bidens plan includes Grocery store workers and so do many other states. After keeping Americas food supply chain open through this pandemic....it is an absolute slap in the face that you did not include the grocery industry in the 1b vaccine rollout

"The first step will be to work with states to clearly identify priority groups for the vaccine, the first of which will be adults 65 and older and essential frontline workers, including teachers and grocery store clerks"

"Essential workers are providing life-saving medical care, cleaning our hospital rooms, delivering our food and other essential goods, stocking our grocery store shelves, getting us from place to place, keeping our cities' lights on, and so much more. They have been on the frontlines of this pandemic."

Do the right thing. We did for you!!!

Adam Kristiansen
Grocery industry worker

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [Patricia Becker](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 8:37:50 AM

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

Dear Committee Member,

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,
Patricia Becker

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

From: [Deanna Richardson](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee - Phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 8:30:11 AM

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Dear subcommittee members:

Thank-you for all of the hard work you have been doing to determine the distribution of the COVID-19 vaccine to Wisconsin residents.

As you assess which residents should be in Phase 1B, I ask that you do proceed with including Wisconsin's prison population in this phase. An extremely high population of inmates have contracted the virus and they should be included in this phase to keep more people getting sick and possibly dying.

Additionally, I believe the grocery store workers must be included in Phase 1B. These individuals have and continue to be on the front line of the pandemic from the beginning. Day after day, these individuals are exposed to the public and they need to receive the vaccine to protect not only themselves, but their families from getting sick.

Please move forward with these recommendations.

Best,
Deanna Richardson
Milwaukee resident

From: [Debora Nischik](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 8:29:39 AM

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

Dear Committee Member,

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

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,
Debora Nischik



From: [Brian Betzhold](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 8:17:59 AM

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

Dear Committee Member,

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

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

Sincerely,
Brian Betzhold



From: rose.birzer@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Rosemary Birzer](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Requesting inclusion of vaccines for frontline, essential hunger-relief workers in phase 1B of the Wisconsin State Disaster Medical Advisory vaccine subcommittee recommendation
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 8:05:06 AM

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

Dear Wisconsin State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee Vaccine Subcommittee,

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

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

- Hunger-relief workers and volunteers are the critical force behind the wellbeing of the record number of Wisconsinites facing food insecurity. One in eight Wisconsinites, including one in five Wisconsin kids, don't know where their next meal is coming from. The hunger-relief network is mobilized like never before to meet this need. Our network is serving about 60% more individuals than last year. And Wisconsin's Feeding America member food banks and partners distributed about 90 million unprecedented pounds of food to those experiencing food insecurity from March to September of 2020, that is 25 million more pounds than was distributed in all of fiscal year 2019.
- The hunger-relief frontline workers and volunteers serve individuals in vulnerable health situations. People experiencing food insecurity have a disproportionately high rate of chronic health conditions that put people at higher risk of severe COVID-19 complications. This population frequently has less access to consistent quality health care and insurance. Also, 23% of households served has at least one senior and we know that age is a good indicator for risk of severe COVID-19 complications or death. People of color disproportionately experience food insecurity and are also known to be at greater risk of severe COVID-19 complications.
- It is our duty to ensure the safety of those being served. Individuals being served and in contact with hunger-relief frontline workers have few other options but to seek assistance from food pantries and meal sites do not have a way to mitigate their COVID-19 risk. They cannot avoid the interaction with staff and volunteers and rely on the organization to help meet basic needs and provide them with the meals they need to live.
- The hunger-relief network relies heavily on volunteers to fulfill the mission, many (37%) of these volunteers are seniors. An estimated 52 percent of food pantries and meal sites report having no paid staff. Among the 46 percent of agencies with paid staff, the median number of paid full-time equivalent staff members reported is four. As a result, if staff or volunteers were to test positive for COVID-19 and potentially require other staff or volunteers to quarantine, food distribution operations would be greatly impacted.

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

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

Sincerely,
Ms. Rosemary Birzer



From: [Shelley De Lisle](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 8:03:19 AM

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

Dear Committee Member,

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

Sincerely,
Shelley De Lisle



From: [Heidi Nelson](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: "vaccine subcommittee" and "Phase 1B"
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 8:02:05 AM

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Good morning,

I am not a grocery store worker, but without them these past 10 months our lives would be far worse off than we already are. Please include them as essential workers 1b and get them vaccinated asap!

Thank you,
Heidi Nelson

From: [Sandy Hauser](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 7:59:48 AM

I would like to see grocery store employees added to phase 1B.
Because I lost my job due to Covid I had to begin working at a grocery store to make ends meet. I know a lot of grocery store employees are afraid of contracting Covid. Many in the store already have. We are around hundreds of people daily

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Cris Mastrocola](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 7:31:47 AM

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

Dear Committee Member,

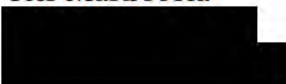
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In their guidelines for COVID-19 vaccine distribution, the CDC specifically calls out "grocery workers" as essential and part of Phase 1b distribution. We are asking your committee to include grocery workers as part of Wisconsin's Phase 1b distribution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

Sincerely,
Cris Mastrocola

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

From: [Sara Smith](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: "vaccine subcommittee" and "Phase 1B"
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 7:24:19 AM

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

Please consider grocery store employees for 1b, we have been working in the public through the entire pandemic. We have put in long hours, adjusted protocols, and made it safer for customers to shop while we risked being at the store everyday so people could get food. Thank you for considering grocery store workers.
Sara a Kroger employee

From: [Karen Springob](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine committee phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 7:19:44 AM

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

Please consider any retail establishment clerks that serve the public especially grocery store workers. Also news stations as many work in the office due to nature of work.

Thank you

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Tim Gmail](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee - Phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 7:16:20 AM

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

Consideration should be given to Food Bank and Food Pantry workers and volunteers and grocery workers.

Tim Malaney
New Berlin

From: [Darcy Mullins](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 6:53:53 AM

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

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. We have worked throughout this pandemic being exposed to it on a daily basis. Many in this industry have had COVID and some didn't fare so well. The lack of leadership from a federal level at the beginning caused many of our customers to not follow masking and distancing guidelines, so we have been at much greater risk.

Sincerely ,
Darcy Mullins



From: [Colleen Baran](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 6:25:55 AM

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

Please consider food workers in the next phase of vaccinations.

Grocery employees are not only essential to keep everyone fed, but they are among the most public-facing people in the nation's workforce.

Thank you,
Colleen Baran
Green Bay, WI