

From: [Melanie Reesman](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 4:38:36 PM

Dear Committee Member,

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

I work for Metcalfe's Market, a local grocery store, with two locations in Madison and one in Wauwatosa. Throughout this pandemic, I and my co-workers have reported to work everyday to provide an essential service to the community, providing food and other services. To bump us down from considering that we are essential workers and placing us in the same vaccine level as the general public is truly shameful. We have put ourselves at risk everyday that we have gone into work. And, though our store owners have put into place the utmost of safety precautions, we don't know where or what practices our customers have been, or have been doing. We remain at risk everyday from contracting Covid-19 and the sooner we are able to receive the vaccine, the less at risk we will be. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Melanie Reesman



From: [Nanette Strennen](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Please reconsider including the grocery industry in tier 1B in the vaccination plan
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 4:35:08 PM
Attachments: image001.png

January 13, 2021

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

Dear Vaccine Subcommittee Members,

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,
Nanette

Nanette Strennen

Vice President & CFO



SERVING THE REAL INDEPENDENT GROCERS!

Direct: 608-227-2656 || Cell: 608-206-7394

5321 Verona Road Madison, Wisconsin 53711-6050

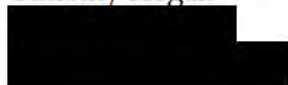
www.certcoinc.com

From: [Timothy Hogan](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 4:33:12 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. I find it difficult to believe dedicated food store workers exposed to more than 12,000 customers per week in my store alone, would be considered as part of the general public, when it comes to vaccinations. I would hope you would consider the food chain and its workers much more important due to the high exposure they have to the virus from the general public, as well as having the opportunity to infect that same amount of people they are serving. if they would be infected with the virus. Please re-consider! Thank You!

Sincerely ,
Timothy Hogan



From: [john blattner](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 4:27:28 PM

Dear Committee Member,

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

Sincerely ,
john blattner



From: [Justyne Uribe](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Distribution
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 4:23:23 PM

January 13, 2021

State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee (SDMAC)

Vaccine Subcommittee

Via email: dhssdmac@dhs.wisconsin.gov

Dear Vaccine Subcommittee Members,

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,

Justyne Uribe

From: [Cates, Lisa A - DHS](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: FW: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 4:20:34 PM

From: Michael Howse <Michael.Howse.404553225@p2a.co>
Sent: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 4:17 PM
To: Palm, Andrea J - DHS <andrea.palm@dhs.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B

Dear Committee Member,

These people have been in the fire of the COVID pandemic from the start. I respectfully request that you support those in the grocery industry, as we have supported you, as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations.

Sincerely,
Michael Howse

 |

From: [Cates, Lisa A - DHS](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: FW: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 4:18:33 PM

From: Kenneth Riley <Kenneth.Riley.404553289@p2a.co>
Sent: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 4:18 PM
To: Palm, Andrea J - DHS <andrea.palm@dhs.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those working in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. Our company has approximately 300 associates who have worked extremely hard during this extremely stressful time. They have literally been front line and essential workers since day one of this pandemic and deserve to be included in the next wave of vaccinations. The amount of customers, vendors, sales reps, and support staff everyday leaves these associates very vulnerable. When I read this morning that this committee is considering to put into this next phase mink farmers, that was laughable. How many mink farmers are there in the State of Wisconsin compared to how many in the grocery industry Thank you for your consideration to take care of our very dedicated people in our industry, who help in keeping our doors open to provide services to our customers.

Sincerely ,
Kenneth Riley



From: [Amanda Broan](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Grocery Workers 1B Status Reconsideration
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 4:13:34 PM
Attachments: image001.png

January 13, 2021

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

Dear Vaccine Subcommittee Members,

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

To be called heroes for 10 months and have this glimmer of hope for a vaccine ripped out of our

hands is a shame. Please reconsider.

Sincerely,

Amanda Broan

Private Brands Manager



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Direct: 608-227-2657

5321 Verona Road Madison, Wisconsin 53711-6050

www.certcoinc.com

From: [Rudolph J. Young](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: SDMAC
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 4:11:10 PM

January 13, 2021

State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee (SDMAC)

Vaccine Subcommittee

Via email: dhssdmac@dhs.wisconsin.gov

Dear Vaccine Subcommittee Members,

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

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,

Rudy Young
Retail Sales Consultant
Certco Inc.
608.317.4122

From: [Danielle Ludtke](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Revised Plan for Tier 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 4:04:31 PM

January 13, 2021

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

Dear Vaccine Subcommittee Members,

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

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

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

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

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Sincerely,

Danielle Ludtke

From: [Matt Nelson](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 4:01:47 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. Many of us worked tirelessly during the height of the pandemic to make sure people around the country were being fed.

Sincerely ,
Matt Nelson



From: [Andrew Archie](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Please Reconsider Industry Tier Designation for COVID-19 Vaccination Plan
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 3:56:20 PM

Dear Vaccine Subcommittee Members,

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

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,

Andrew Archie

From: [Steve Olivier](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 3:55:06 PM

Dear Committee Member,

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

Sincerely ,
Steve Olivier



From: [Paul Hart](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 3:52:49 PM

Dear Committee Member,

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

Sincerely ,
Paul Hart



From: [Gregg Peters](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 3:51:44 PM

Dear Committee Member,

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

Sincerely,
Gregg Peters



From: [Steven Staeglich](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 3:50:30 PM

Dear Committee Member,

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

These workers should be considered front line hero's since they continue to support the communities they live in. Please do not forget what they have sacrificed.

Sincerely ,
Steven Staeglich



From: [Srini Krishnaswamy](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 3:49:06 PM

Dear Committee Member,

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

Sincerely ,
Srini Krishnaswamy



From: [Steven Waliga](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 3:46:10 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. If Grocery store workers continue to get sick. You will not eat. !!

Sincerely ,
Steven Waliga



From: [Adam Kristiansen](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: COVID-19 vaccination distribution plan
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 3:45:39 PM
Attachments: image001.png

January 13, 2021

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

Dear Vaccine Subcommittee Members,

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

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

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

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

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

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

To be called heroes for 10 months and have this glimmer of hope for a vaccine ripped out of our

hands is a shame. Please reconsider.

Sincerely,

Adam Kristiansen

Thank you,

Adam Kristiansen

Account Manager-Woodmans



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Cell: 608-444-6818

5321 Verona Road Madison, Wisconsin 53711-6050

www.certcoinc.com

From: [Charles Potter](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 3:45:08 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. Wisconsin would be the only state to disregard the CDC recommendation.

Sincerely,
Charles Potter

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

From: [Yvonne Chenier](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 3:42:20 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those the grocery industry as the next population for COVID-19 vaccinations.

Sincerely ,
Yvonne Chenier



From: [Alma Ruiz](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: SDMAC REQUEST URGENT
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 3:36:19 PM
Attachments: image001.png
Importance: High

January 13, 2021

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

Dear Vaccine Subcommittee Members,

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

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

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

Sincerely,

Alma Ruiz

Alma Ruiz
Buyer/Merchandiser
Specialty and Global Foods



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Direct: 608-227-2717

5321 Verona Road Madison, Wisconsin 53711-6050

www.certcoinc.com

From: ychenier@charter.net
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: appeal to consider including grocery workers in next vaccinations
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 3:35:40 PM

Please re-consideration the grocery industry as you decide the next eligible workers for COVID-19 vaccinations. I have worked throughout the pandemic. I am exposed to many customers. I do not have the opportunity to work from home.

Sincerely,

Yvonne Chenier



From: [Adrian Tecua Rivera](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 3:33:51 PM
Attachments: image001.png

January 13, 2021

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

Dear Vaccine Subcommittee Members,

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

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

Sincerely,

Adrian Tecua Rivera

Help Desk Specialist, Information Technology

Certco, Inc.

Extension: 1233

Help Desk: **1233** or **608-278-2203**

Office: 608-227-2233



5321 Verona Road, Madison, Wisconsin 53711-6050

SERVING THE REAL INDEPENDENT GROCERS!

www.certcoinc.com

From: [Hyland, James J](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee "Phase 1B"
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 3:25:59 PM
Attachments: image001.png
image002.png
image003.png
SDMAC Vaccine Subcommittee 1.12.21.docx

Please see attached commentary regarding Vaccine Priority Group 1b.

James J. Hyland

VP Communications & Public Affairs

Roundy's Division/The Kroger Co.

875 E. Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53202

414-231-5811 / james.hyland@roundys.com



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ROUNDY'S SUPERMARKETS, INC.

PICK 'N SAVE · METRO MARKET · MARIANO'S

PO Box 473
Milwaukee WI 53201

414-231-5000

To: Members of the SDMAC Vaccine Subcommittee

Subject: "Vaccine Subcommittee" and "Phase 1B"

January 13, 2021

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Dear SDMAC Vaccine Subcommittee Members:

First and foremost, thank you for soliciting comments on Phase 1B. I appreciate the opportunity to present our views to the committee. My comments today are in response to grocery workers in the State of Wisconsin being removed from Vaccine Priority Group 1b per SDMAC Vaccine Subcommittee proposed recommendations.

Roundy's is the largest grocer in the state of Wisconsin. We employ approximately 13,000 associates throughout our network of our 106 stores, two distribution centers, home office and commissary located throughout the state. Our business and operations have been designated as essential under the Department of Health Services (DHS) Emergency Order # 28 (Safer at Home Order) Section 13; (b)(c) dated and signed by DHS Secretary-designee Andrea Palm on 4/16/20.

Throughout the pandemic, Roundy's has gone above and beyond in serving Wisconsinites and keeping them fed. Approximately 1.2 million customers cross our stores' thresholds each week. The health and wellbeing of our associates and our customers is a top priority and we have taken extra precautionary efforts for safe food handling and clean shopping environments.

Grocery workers are on the frontlines ensuring Americans have access to the food and products they need. In the early stages of the pandemic, our store, warehouse, distribution, food production and office associates worked around the clock to keep our stores open for our customers under the dual handicaps of a fragmented supply chain and a deadly virus. I can't stress enough the dedication and commitment of our store associates under these most trying circumstances.

We have followed guidance from federal, state and local agencies, including the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and other health organizations since the onset of the pandemic in regard to keeping a safe and healthy environment for our associates and customers. We have established several safety protocols for the benefit of both our customers and associates. We reserved shopping time for the elderly and those with underlying health concerns who must leave home to obtain their groceries. We are doing everything we can to elevate the health and safety of Pick 'n Save and Metro Market store associates and customers in the wake of the COVID-19 event.



The COVID-19 pandemic has had a telling effect on our business as well as the grocery industry in general. There can be no argument that our store associates are frontline workers who are at great risk interacting with the volume of customers our stores experience each day. Active COVID-19 cases and resulting required quarantines of store associates continue to greatly affect our operations. We have hundreds of associates who have “opted-out” of their shifts due to the fear of testing positive for Covid-19.

Researchers from Harvard published a report in October, 2020 dealing with the association between [Covid -19 infection, exposure risk and mental health among retail workers](#). The study was first published in *Occupational & Environmental Medicine*. The study identified an “alarming rate” of COVID-19 infection among retail workers the public is most likely to interact with on a regular basis – grocery workers. Grocery store workers are constantly exposed to the risk of COVID-19 transmission because of the nature of their jobs. The research further points out, “Studies have indicated pandemic awareness, infection fear and family concerns contribute significantly to essential workers’ mental distress during an emerging disease pandemic.” We can attest to the validity of this finding.

It's important to point out that through Kroger Health, the healthcare division of The Kroger Co., our parent company, we've partnered with the federal government and state health officials to administer and provide accessibility to the COVID-19 vaccine. Our Wisconsin pharmacies have administered over 38,000 flu shots to date this flu season and also administered over 21,000 COVID-19 Antibody Tests.

We have the capacity to do a minimum of 6,500-7,000 COVID vaccinations per week through our statewide pharmacy network and in other large-scale venues once the vaccine is widely available. We have the expertise, capability and willingness to assist DHS with the vaccination process in the State of Wisconsin.

Once the vaccines were approved in December, there has been great anticipation among our associates to receive the vaccine as part of Vaccine Priority Group 1b. We were under the impression that as essential workers as identified by DHS; we would receive vaccines for our associates as part of Priority Group 1b.

I urge the SDMAC Vaccine Subcommittee to reconsider removing grocery store workers from Vaccine Priority Group 1b. Extending the timeframe further for our frontline associates will have a serious effect on the safety of our store associates and customers and will have a negative effect on their morale.

Thank you for your consideration.

James J. Hyland

James J. Hyland
VP, Communications & Public Affairs
Roundy's Division
The Kroger Co.

From: [Thomas Witt](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 3:15:52 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. We are a grocery store with 87 employees who have contact with over 1000 customers per day. We cannot wear hazmat suits, nor have knowledge on the health status of any customers. Besides Healthcare, I can't think of anything more important than food distribution.

Sincerely ,
Thomas Witt



From: [Robert Eickhoff](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 3:13:10 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. When has nourishment and consuming food become non essential?

Sincerely ,
Robert Eickhoff



From: [Cyndie Kaczmarek](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 3:08:41 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. Our staff spend countless hours in direct contact with the public. We have done everything in our power to keep our staff safe and believe receiving the vaccine as part of 1B is deserved for our staff. The Grocery industry needs to be included in the essential vaccine group.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely ,
Cyndie Kaczmarek



From: [Amy Day](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 3:05:11 PM

Dear Committee Member,

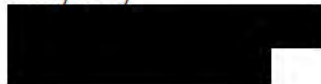
Grocery workers should not be pushed down on the vaccine priority list. I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations.

I own a small grocery store in a small town. We employ around 50 people. We are the only grocery store in town. We are in constant contact with the public, and have been since the beginning of this pandemic. While others were shut down, we went to work every day to provide food for the public. When this pandemic started, many of our employees quit because they were afraid. Many of our employees went into self quarantine. And those of us that were left struggled through even though we were short-handed. We struggled through knowing that our constant exposure to the public put us at risk. And we STILL struggle through every day knowing our constant exposure to the public puts us at risk. But people need to eat. The food supply chain is important. So far 7 of our employees have tested positive even though we follow safety procedures and protocols. We require masks. We have plexiglass barriers. We clean and sanitize. We limit the number of people in the break room and offices. Yet people get sick. In a store of 50 employees, each time someone gets sick and is out for 2 weeks or more, it puts a strain on the entire store. Two of those employees got sick enough that they didn't come back. It is hard to hire new people now to replace them. Many don't want to work somewhere where they are exposed to the public.

We are tired. We are worried. Please reconsider prioritizing grocery workers. Give us some peace of mind. Help us keep people fed. The food supply chain is vital.

Thank you.

Sincerely ,
Amy Day



From: [WSG](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#); [GOV Info](#)
Subject: Vaccine for grocery workers
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 3:03:16 PM

We strongly support Tim Metcalfe's appeal that grocery workers receive as high a priority as possible for the COVID vaccine.

Betty and Walter Gray
Middleton, Wisconsin

From: [Claire Hemmerling](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Covid vaccine phases
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 3:00:45 PM

Hi,

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

Sincerely,
Claire Kuschel

From: [Alex Stodola](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 2:50:22 PM

Dear Committee Member,

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

In the beginning of this pandemic, when all we knew was that COVID-19 was here, and it was deadly, grocery workers knew the risk and kept working for the public good.

As essential workers, we were enlisted to help maintain society's basic needs. I implemented every safety measure I could find, and even mandated masks in-store a week before the state - an unpopular decision, as you know.

I was elated when I saw that grocery workers were in group 1b of vaccine recommendations from the CDC. Despite all of our safety measures, my team of 70+ is still exposed to hundreds if not thousands of people each week, and vice versa.

By vaccinating our grocery and other essential food workers, we eliminate a very common vector in our communities and strengthen the fundamental work of getting food to our friends and neighbors.

Thank you for reconsidering the prioritization of food workers in the Tier 1b vaccine schedule.

Sincerely,
Alex Stodola



From: [Thomas Lancaster](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 2:32:44 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I don't need to tell you how awful the Pandemic has been, you know and are trying to do your best. I do however think it's very urgent that I inform you that not allowing grocery and food supply chain workers to get vaccinated would be a huge mistake.

My store is in Cross Plains, about 15 miles west of Madison. We aren't a huge store like Costco or Walmart but we are the only grocery store in our community. We have averaged about 6,000 customers a week or more during the pandemic. I have about 60 employees ranging from 16 to 70 and they have done an absolutely phenomenal job through this entire thing.

They have policed mask wearing, calmed customers, delivered groceries to our elderly customers for minimal to no cost and put their health on the line on top of their regular duties. We've figured out our own policies and procedures when the health department was too overwhelmed to be of assistance. I have multiple staff members who had people close to them die and one whose partner has been in the hospital for several months. They all keep coming to work, don't complain and make sure our community gets what they need.

I personally have done all the contact tracing and paperwork as well as personally contacting everyone who has caught COVID or had any questions about our store policies and procedures. I've sat on the phone with parents of our younger employees and assured them that I will keep their child safe. Then there's the abuse we've all taken for daring to ask people to comply with the mask orders, the false accusations of trying to rip people off or the passive aggressive comments that we're just getting rich off this and don't care about anyone's health. My parents are getting closer to the more dangerous age range, my middle sister is also in retail and my youngest sister is at risk since she has pre-existing conditions but still continues to work in the healthcare field. I go long stretches not being able to get much sleep and am constantly preparing for the worst both personally and professionally. Getting myself and my employees vaccinated would take a huge weight off my shoulders and allow me to spend more time and energy helping the community and those that need it most.

My employees and grocery workers as a whole have not asked for much from anyone this entire time. But, now we are desperately asking for your help to classify us 1b vaccination worthy. The stress and intense effort we have been putting into keeping the community fed and ourselves as healthy as possible is taking a mental and physical toll on myself and my staff. Even the best of us are starting to struggle.

We need you to help get us vaccinated so we don't feel like we're risking our lives on a daily basis just coming to work. If people like us start burning out and getting sick or deciding the job isn't worth the stress it will do significant damage to the food supply chain and that would harm EVERYONE.

Thank you for your help, for doing the right thing and allowing us to be in the 1b category. It means more than I can put into words.

Sincerely ,
Thomas Lancaster



From: [Kaaren Northrop](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 2:30:58 PM

Dear Committee Member,

Those of us in the grocery industry have been told we are essential workers and are a priority for the COVID-19 vaccinations. Across the state, every one of us has been on the front lines every day - with no breaks, because we are an essential industry.

I urge you to include grocery store workers - in my case my employees and family - in the 1b group and accelerate our ability to receive the vaccination. We are essential in Wisconsin. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Kaaren Northrop



From: [Jim Gauden](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 2:28:41 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. Grocery workers have been on the front lines since the beginning without an option of working from home and they will continue to man the lines. Please treat them accordingly.

Sincerely ,
Jim Gauden



From: [Emily Wershofen](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 2:23:45 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. Like other essential workforce, our industry has worked tirelessly through the pandemic. Our service to the general public places us at higher risk. When our workforce is impacted by the virus it causes great disruption in our ability to provide consistent service to the guests. Our industry can't close it's doors when we are short-staffed. Instead it requires those that are in good health to work longer hours to meet the demands of the business.

Sincerely ,
Emily Wershofen



From: [Mike Day](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 2:22:42 PM

Dear Committee Member,

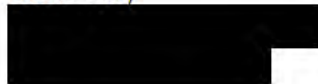
I see that grocery store workers are getting pushed back in the vaccine priority.

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

We have been working very hard to stay open during this pandemic and keep the village of Cambridge fed. We are the only grocery store in town. Our employees are worn out, tired and frazzled. It has been hard on them dealing with the public, many of whom do not follow social distancing and mask guidelines. They fear for their health and safety. Getting a vaccine would GREATLY improve their morale and comfort level in regards to coming to work and dealing with the public. It would also make it easier to hire new employees because they would be less at risk working in a grocery store.

It is vital to keep the food chain running in this country. Please prioritize grocery workers in the vaccine distribution.

Sincerely ,
Mike Day

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

From: [Matthew Gross](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 2:16:34 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. We have been distributing food in Wisconsin through this pandemic. I am hopeful you will re-consider. Thanks!

Sincerely ,
Matthew Gross



From: [Meredith Gremel](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 2:01:04 PM

Dear Committee Member,

It is critically important that we maintain the food supply chain and vaccinating frontline grocery workers and food distribution/transportation workers should not be delayed. Our company has been struggling with labor shortages since the pandemic began, and managing through the hiring and training of over 10,000 associates to ensure that we deliver the essential food, medicine and household products our customers and communities need. Please DO NOT delay their vaccinations. Including these essential frontline heroes with the general public will create delays will continue to put them at risk and extend our labor shortage problems.

Sincerely ,
Meredith Gremel



From: [LORI PRITZL-O'KEEFE](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 1:30:40 PM

Dear Committee Member,

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

My Team is my most valuable asset in my business. Without them, we could not provide for our commity. Covid 19 made that especially stand out, when some of them were not able to make it to work. Hours were shortened, services cut, but the remaining TEAM stayed strong and worked additional hours to provide for our community. Our customers appreciated our efforts so they could continue to stay safe and be supplied with the food and services we continue to provide.

I am angered that you feel that grocer workings are not as essential as others on your list. Can you imagine how frantic your voters would feel if they were unable to feed their families, because the grocer industry was not considered essential. Really, where is your comon sense?

Sincerely ,
LORI PRITZL-O'KEEFE



From: [Tim Metcalfe](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 1:29:26 PM

Dear Committee Member,

January 13, 2020

Honorable Tony Evers, Governor
Delivered by email
State Capitol, 115 E
Madison, WI 53702

Dear Governor Evers:

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, you 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, 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

Tim Metcalfe
President
Metcalfe's Market

Sincerely ,
Tim Metcalfe
201 Durose Terrace
Madison, WI 53705

From: [Angela Ames](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 1:26:21 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the food service industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. Employees in food service and food production environments are not capable of social distancing, putting them in harms way every day. When one of these individuals contracts COVID-19, they have a tendency to impact several others therefore increasing the spread within the communities they serve. With food being an essential item for human survival it is imperative to protect the health and well-being of these individuals to prevent food supply chain disruptions. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely ,
Angela Ames



From: [blake daniels](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 1:20:08 PM

Dear Committee Member,

Tony!!! How can you reconsider!? We have been working and open throughout this whole debauchery! I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. Wake up and do what's right and keep our spot in line!!!!!!!!!!

Sincerely ,
blake daniels



From: [Joseph Zietlow](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 1:15:08 PM

Dear Committee Member,

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

Our Kwik Trip Coworkers have been on the front lines since the pandemic started -- they should be Thanked and show some appreciation by giving them the vaccine in the 1B group - thank you

Sincerely ,
Joseph Zietlow



From: [Michael Wichman](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 1:04:35 PM

Dear Committee Member,

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

Sincerely,
Michael Wichman



From: [Susan Huber](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 1:01:23 PM

Dear Committee Member,

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

Sincerely,
Susan Huber



From: [Reed Prisk](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 12:55:42 PM

Dear Committee Member,

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

How are we not including in this, we are the key people who have made sure you have been feed and have the things you need during this Pandemic. We have put our health on the line every day to accommodate these needs to the community.

Sincerely ,
Reed Prisk



From: [Jeanne Schommer](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 12:50:00 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. We own a grocery store, and if we are not considered essential workers, then who is besides health care? That you would downsize grocery store workers is an injustice. Thank you.

Sincerely ,
Jeanne Schommer



From: [Connie VonDerHeide](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 12:48:50 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. You've probably experienced firsthand the impact the pandemic has had on the food supply chain. You've no doubt seen the shortages and resulting price fluctuations of products on the shelves and in the meat and produce cases of your favorite grocery stores, and had to wait longer at service counters and checkout stations because of staff shortages due to illness or fear of illness. Furthermore, because of labor shortages along the entire food chain, some commodities (milk, meat, fresh fruits & vegetables) have spoiled or even had to be dumped or destroyed for lack of available production facilities. That has also been a strain on our economy.

If you do not reconsider approving grocery workers for Tier 1b, Wisconsin would be the only state in the country to disregard the U.S. CDC recommendations by downgrading food employees.

Grocery store workers ARE "public facing essential workers." They have been (and remain) essential throughout the pandemic, ensuring that citizens have access to food and other necessary items. In my small store alone, all of my 20 "public facing essential worker" employees and approximately 400 shoppers are potentially exposed - Every Day.

A recent Harvard University study found that grocery store employees may be at higher risk for COVID-19, and they also may be more likely to have no symptoms. That combination of factors should be a sufficient reason to include grocery store workers - who most certainly ARE "public facing essential workers" - in Tier 1b. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,
Connie VonDerHeide



From: [Rebecca Zillges](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 12:47:16 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I was highly discouraged to hear that you are down grading some of the only people that have been thrown into this day after day since the beginning. We don't get to temp check people ask them a list of questions before they enter our store. They enter my store and I have spent over \$100k in trying to keep my employees and my customers safe!

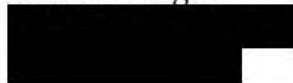
To be honest how you can even put the teachers ahead of people that are working in the public every single day except for Easter and Christmas is absolutely Ludacris. How dare you only care about your allegiance to your teacher's union and not use the common sense God gave you! If grocery workers STRIKE... Then what!? Who feeds you!?

Half of my employees are over 60. I plan on letting all of them read that you plan on telling them that what they have been doing and all they have sacrificed doesn't matter to the leaders of this state.

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

Rebecca Zillges
VP Witt's Food Inc.
Serving Crivitz since 1915

Sincerely ,
Rebecca Zillges



From: [Neil Hansen](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 12:44:05 PM

Dear Committee Member,

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

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,
Neil Hansen

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

From: [Greg Cross](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 12:43:37 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I work for SpartanNash who is a wholesale food supplier to Independently owned supermarkets in the State and, in addition owner and operator of several stores in Wisconsin. I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations.

SpartanNash has over 500 Associates working in our own retail stores and several thousand employees of our wholesale customers who have put their lives on the line every day since last March to keep the public fed and with critical supplies during this pandemic. This came at a cost of several deaths and 1000's of cases of COVID among these employees.

At the same time most other people were allowed to work from home or collect unemployment which kept them and their families safe.

It is unthinkable that their sacrifices should be ignored now when the preventative means are at our disposal

Our workers are not the privileged class but should be treated better than this

Sincerely ,
Greg Cross



From: [Greg Thompson](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 12:43:30 PM

Dear Committee Member,

If indeed those of us working everyday in the grocery industry are essential workers we should be considered for high priority for Covid-19 vaccinations. We are in contact with public every day. Asking you reconsider you priority to include those helping keep the citizens of Wisconsin fed. Thank You.

Sincerely ,
Greg Thompson

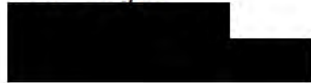


From: [Alan Detjen](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 12:40:40 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. We talk with hundreds, if not thousands of customers every day. If we are not frontline I would like to know who is!

Sincerely ,
Alan Detjen



From: [DENNIS NOWACK](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 12:37:46 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. Few workers come into contact with more people in the course of a normal day than people working in any grocery store. If the goal is to reduce the spread of this virus, then you're doing a huge disservice to the population by not vaccinating grocers.

Sincerely ,
DENNIS NOWACK



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

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. Grocery workers are very essential to this state

Sincerely ,
Corey Carolfi



From: [Robin Elliott](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 12:36:33 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. We work directly with the public all day long.

Sincerely,
Robin Elliott



From: [Amber Krisher](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 12:36:05 PM

Dear Committee Member,

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

Sincerely,
Amber Krisher



From: [Kevin Miller](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 12:35:29 PM

Dear Committee Member,

Good afternoon,

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

Sincerely ,
Kevin Miller



From: [Jessica Reinhart](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 12:35:25 PM

Dear Committee Member,

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

An essential worker is anyone who is essential to society. If all grocery and convenience stores disappeared tomorrow, what do you think would happen?

We literally cannot survive without grocery and convenience stores and the people who run them. Plain and simple.

Sincerely ,
Jessica Reinhart



From: [Adam Gamble](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 12:34:32 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I believe you are making a mistake in excluding food supply industry workers from category 1b. It is particularly concerning to me that you would prioritize education workers before food supply. While education has proven that it can continue virtually, and frankly it does not create an immediate concern for sustaining life, the food supply workers can not provide life sustaining food products remotely. There is no choice involved when it comes to allowing the public to purchase the food they need. Please reconsider including the thousands of retail and supply chain workers that have to physically face the public to do their jobs. They are interacting with many more high risk individuals than education and non-frontline health care workers are.

Sincerely ,
Adam Gamble



From: [Evan Powell](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 12:34:14 PM

Dear Committee Member,

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

Sincerely ,
Evan Powell



From: [Alex Malicki](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 12:33:08 PM

Dear Committee Member,

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

While my age group (25 - 35) is considered "not at-risk", the MAJORITY of my employees are older and fall into a category that may be considered "at-risk".

Sincerely ,
Alex Malicki



From: [Gregory Hanks](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 12:31:46 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. I really feel my employees have been in harms way from day one and you can tell it's taken an emotional toll. Our team members have to directly deal with people on a daily basis. I hope you please reconsider any thought of backing them in line for the vaccine, in fact move them forward. Thank you

Sincerely ,
Gregory Hanks



From: [Tana PetersDahlquist](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 12:31:13 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. Cashier's, baggers, and other departments work tirelessly to make sure that everyone has food, and other needs. We wear our masks and gloves and sanitize and do what ever necessary to keep you and ourselves safe. We are superheroes. We do in-store and on line orders. Please keep us in mind.

Sincerely,
Tana PetersDahlquist



From: [Jason Cowley](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 12:30:45 PM

Dear Committee Member,

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

I'm honestly shocked this is on the table. Please let me know who you think has more interaction daily with a more diverse amount of people? Without grocery store workers where will people get food and hydration products?

Sincerely ,
Jason Cowley



From: [Frank Lueptow](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 12:24:56 PM

Dear Committee Member,

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

If grocery stores are not front line HOW IS !?!

Sincerely ,
Frank Lueptow



From: [Michelle Gubser](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 12:22:24 PM

Dear Committee Member,

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

Sincerely,
Michelle Gubser



From: [Dave Seeber](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 12:16:42 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for you to reconsider taking grocery workers out of the 1-b vaccination schedule. My employees, along with those all across the state, have risked their lives throughout this pandemic with little to no support from government. These are frontline workers who are in contact with more people on a daily basis than any other than any other group of people in the state. A great way to slow the spread of COVID-19 is to vaccinate these people who are most most likely to be spreaders or carriers of this disease. Please consider keeping grocery store workers in the 1-b vaccination stage.

Sincerely ,
Dave Seeber



From: [Jay Ellingson](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 12:12:44 PM

Dear Committee Member,

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

Thank you for your time and considerations on this very important matter to the Wisconsin front line workers in food, agriculture and fuel.

Regards.

Jay

Sincerely ,
Jay Ellingson

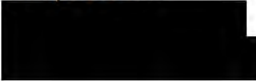


From: [Cory Krisher](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 12:10:27 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. Grocery workers are 100% essential if we do not have enough staff healthy we cannot open if we cannot open people cannot buy food.

Sincerely ,
Cory Krisher



From: [Anthony Laatsch](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 12:08:20 PM

Dear Committee Member,

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

It's been a difficult year for everybody, but having been in the grocery business for 23 years, last year was the most difficult. I was at work all but two days (two holidays that we remained closed) so finding out I'm no longer essential is rather upsetting.

Sincerely,
Anthony Laatsch



From: [Steve Loehr](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 12:08:18 PM

Dear Committee Member,

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

Sincerely ,
Steve Loehr



From: [Rebecca Jaworski](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 12:07:50 PM

Dear Committee Member,

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


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,
Rebecca Jaworski

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

From: [mick Ineeland](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 12:06:05 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations.
We are around more people than most sectors.
We put our self. at risk every day.

Sincerely ,
mick Ineeland



From: [mark maloney](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 12:05:13 PM

Dear Committee Member,

Dear Sir / Madam

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

Our company works side by side with these workers on the front lines day in and day out, 24/7 around the clock. These workers are assuring nutritional, fresh food is available to all.

I would hope for your reconsideration and move these essential workers closer to the earliest date to be vaccinated,

thank you,

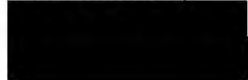
Mark Maloney

Director of Regional Sales,

Russ Davis Wholesale

Sincerely ,

mark maloney



From: [Bailey Nehls](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 12:02:52 PM

Dear Committee Member,

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

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>)

About 20% of grocery store workers had Covid-19, and most didn't have symptoms, study found - CNN

Grocery store work puts employees at serious risk for infection, a new study found, particularly those who have to interact with customers.

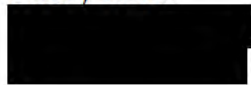
www.cnn.com

).

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 ,
Bailey Nehls



From: [Brian Lauderdale](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 12:01:43 PM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. We have worked hard as frontline essential workers since March. We need this

Sincerely ,
Brian Lauderdale



From: [Mark Thompson](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 11:59:12 AM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. We have been on the front line this whole time. Our people have been affected both physically and emotionally by this pandemic. I am so proud that they have held the line and not faltered. DON'T LET THEM DOWN!!

Sincerely ,
Mark Thompson



From: [Tom Wiemer](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 11:57:48 AM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. We in the grocery industry have been in the front lines since this began. I am not sure what the reasoning is to delay our Vaccines but highly encourage you to rethink this.

Sincerely ,
Tom Wiemer



From: [Timothy Metcalfe](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 11:56:32 AM

Dear Committee Member,

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

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

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

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

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

Sincerely ,
Timothy Metcalfe
726 N Midvale Blvd
Madison, WI 53705

From: [Kaci Robotka](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 11:56:17 AM

Dear Committee Member,

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

In the northern part of the state, mask enforcement is taking it's toll on myself and all of my employees. Once vaccines roll out, they will see that as a reason to argue for non-mask usage (we are already seeing that some). Please let us get ahead of that and let us get vaccinated to keep my employees safe from the idiots who will not wear a mask or get the vaccination.

Sincerely ,
Kaci Robotka




From: [SCOTT VORPAGEL](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 11:55:44 AM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. We have managed to stay open all through this pandemic serving 100's of people each week that we have no idea what precautions they have been taking to stay Covid free and my employees would feel much safer if they could get vaccinated sooner rather than later. Thank you.

Scott Vorpapel
Owner

Sincerely ,
SCOTT VORPAGEL



From: [Amanda Metcalfe](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Please Reconsider Moving Grocery Workers to Group 1c
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 11:55:30 AM

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.

Thank you,

Amanda Metcalfe
Director of Employee Development
726 N. Midvale Blvd
Madison, WI 53705
(P): 608-236-2056



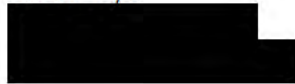
From: [Sarah Tye](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 11:54:57 AM

Dear Committee Member,

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

Our workers have continued working throughout this pandemic, exposing themselves daily to over 3000 individuals who pass through our doors. Often these individuals are those who refuse to abide by mask mandates and requests by businesses and those who come in sick or knowingly exposed. Should our industry experience a mass outbreak, food supply chains would be greatly impacted thereby hurting surrounding communities. We have been doing the best we can by our employees and our customers through safety precautions and following CDC guidelines and feel that our role as essential workers should not be diminished now at this crucial point.

Sincerely ,
Sarah Tye



From: [Julie Baraniak](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 11:54:45 AM

Dear Committee Member,

When everything was shut down we were here everyday to provide food now it is your turn to provide us the vaccine!!!!

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

Sincerely ,
Julie Baraniak



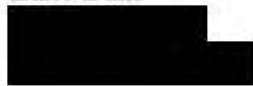
From: [Lane Bahr](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 11:50:44 AM

Dear Committee Member,

WE have been on the front lines serving thousands of customers per week - some without masks - it is our turn.

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

Sincerely ,
Lane Bahr



From: [Michael Geidel](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 11:50:32 AM

Dear Committee Member,

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

We have been in the face of this since the beginning putting our health and our families health at risk to service our communities.

Sincerely ,
Michael Geidel



From: [Amanda Koplin](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 11:48:56 AM

Dear Committee Member,

We have been essential workers all along but now that there is a vaccine we are no longer essential?

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

Sincerely ,
Amanda Koplin



From: [Jeff Maurer](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 11:47:55 AM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. We are having difficulty keeping staff healthy and therefore need people to stock groceries, cut meat, etc

Sincerely ,
Jeff Maurer



From: [Brian Eyers](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 11:46:43 AM

Dear Committee Member,

Why are we the only state downgrading grocery store employees? WE have over 15,000 customers per week go through our store - we should be vaccinated!

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

Sincerely ,
Brian Eyers



From: [Darlene Murphy](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 11:43:39 AM

Dear Committee Member,

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

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,
Darlene Murphy



From: [Mary Gaiche](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 11:41:40 AM

Dear Committee Member,

I am a grocery store manager that has been working providing groceries to our community sine COVID began. Due to being an essential worker I have not seen or had ANY holidays with my children or grandchildren. I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations.

Sincerely ,
Mary Gaiche



From: [Mike Novak](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 11:39:27 AM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. Our people see over one thousand customers each day, and have to deal with customers that refuse to wear face coverings. That's considerably more than any health care worker has to deal with.

Sincerely ,
Mike Novak



From: [David Weber](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 11:38:17 AM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. Since day one of the pandemic, our grocery store employees have continued to be at the forefront of serving the food needs of our communities. During the statewide shutdown in the spring, people could turn to their local grocery stores to ensure their food needs. We took great risks and made major modifications to how we operated to ensure the safety of our employees and the public. We ask the committee to consider this in its deliberations. We simply ask that in order to continue serving our communities' food needs that you follow CDC recommendations and prioritize grocery store workers in the 1b classification. You may not consider us to be so, but we are essential workers in our communities and deserve to be vaccinated in group 1b. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely ,
David Weber



From: [John Furst](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 11:33:42 AM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. Grocery Workers are essential workers and have been since the beginning of this virus. It would be wrong to change this direction this late in the game!

Sincerely ,
John Furst



From: [Richard Wise](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 11:31:01 AM

Dear Committee Member,

I wrote a letter to Governor Evers last week requesting that people in the food industry be a priority in 1b of the Corona Virus vaccination launch. Our employees are on the front line delivering needed food products to the communities we serve each day. Hundreds of thousands of food boxes are being delivered to families through the farmers to families food box program and we want to make sure our employees remain healthy to continue this service. Please make sure our employees get the vaccine in the next phase as essential workers.

Sincerely ,
Richard Wise



From: [Sara Ericson](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 11:27:22 AM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. Our employees have been face to face with customers since day one. We have not been able to close our doors and work from home like many other companies. The food industry has proven to be one of the most essential businesses there is. Please reconsider.

Sincerely ,
Sara Ericson



From: [Marcia Seeker](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 11:27:19 AM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. Disruption of the food chain would be a Disaster. That involves our warehouse as well as The Grocery Store Workers who deal with People on a Very Close basis.

When it all hit in March, Our workers were putting in long days just to get the Groceries to the Stores. Can you imagine if the Food Chain Is slowed down. I see panic Buying and Hoarding just like in March.

Please think of us Next time you are Using your Groceries to make a Meal.

Please Reconsider.

Sincerely ,
Marcia Seeker

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

From: [Randy Goetz](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 11:26:32 AM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. Our workers are on the front line every day, I can't understand how you would classify them as the general population.

Sincerely,
Randy Goetz



From: [Mitchell Eveland](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 11:25:06 AM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. It's been 45 weeks since the Covid Disaster began. We have worked around the clock since the beginning to maintain a safe place to shop and work. We sacrificed greatly. It is extremely disappointing that our contributions are not recognized as having value. We are a very critical component in providing food for families. As a Store Owner it was my hope that my staff that gave so much would at least be able to get the vaccine in a more timely manner. Not sure where we went wrong. Please reconsider and do the right thing.

Sincerely ,
Mitchell Eveland

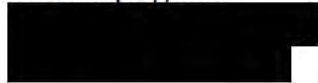


From: [David Spiegelhoff](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 11:23:31 AM

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to ask for your re-consideration of those in the grocery industry as you prioritize populations for COVID-19 vaccinations. We have been essential all they way through this process why change your mind now as not being essential

Sincerely ,
David Spiegelhoff



From: [Deandra Yavorsky](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Cc: [Terri Baumann](#)
Subject: Covid vaccinations
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 9:44:44 AM
Attachments: image001.png

Dear Sir or Madame,

I am writing to express my concern for the most recent approval for draft recommendations for the Phase grouping for the Covid vaccine. I do not understand how Mink Farmers could possibly be placed ahead of food processing workers, grocery staff or public transit workers. I acknowledge that Wisconsin is number one in mink production in the country, and a recent die off of several thousand mink has been attributed to the Covid virus, but I am also aware that the virus does not spread from mink to human. On the other hand, food processors such as myself, are considered essential workers and have been completing our duties to produce food for this state and nation without interruption. What we do is necessary for survival. Also on the new draft are inmates and group housing individuals. In principal, these individuals are isolated. They are not out in public where they could possibly expose the general population. I thoroughly support vaccinating the police and workers within the prison system, but again, it seems that Governor Evers is choosing to turn his back on the groups that would benefit the most from the vaccine. I have not thoroughly investigated the lobbyists which are involved or support that is given to the Governor by these parties but it seems that his decisions are being skewed. I am asking you to please recognize the essential workers in the state and protect them as they deserve to be protected.

Thank you for your time,

Deandra Yavorsky
Director of Food Technology and Quality
Wiskerchen Cheese Inc.
5710 County Road H
Auburndale, WI 54412
Tel. 715.652.3821
Cell 740.328.7776
Deandra.Yavorsky@WiskerchenCheese.com



From: [AA K](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1b COVID-19 vaccine public comment
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 6:44:34 AM

Grocery workers who have to work even during stay home orders (people who work in close proximity with hundreds of people every day, some of those people don't wear masks at all) should be at the top of the group 1b.

Ahmed K.

From: [Peter Turke](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee - Phase 1b COVID-19 vaccine public comment
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 5:41:24 AM

Dear Committee Members,

I am President of a manufacturing company in Wisconsin.

I support prioritizing Wisconsin residents over the age of 65 and those who are at higher risk for complications related to COVID who are not able to shelter in place. These are the folks I worry about most. These are the folks working at Walmart, in our grocery stores, teaching our children and working in our manufacturing plants. They do not have the choice to work from home.

I do not agree with carte blanche prioritization of educators. I recommend prioritizing all residents who are at higher risk for complications who are not able to shelter in place. Our local school district has been able to put controls in place, such as social distancing and spacing out students with a hybrid model. Ethically, I would prefer to see a higher risk Walmart employee be vaccinated before a young, healthy teacher.

I will defer to the scientists and smart folks like you regarding the mink segment; it does seem like an odd segment to prioritize.

Thank you for considering my input.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Turke
Burlington, WI

From: [Michelle Kussow](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Tuesday, January 12, 2021 9:36:10 PM

Dear Committee Member,

On behalf of the Wisconsin Grocers Association, we are writing to ask for your re-consideration of grocery employees as you prioritize populations for vaccination.

Workers throughout the food and agriculture supply chain, as part of Wisconsin's essential infrastructure, have been on the job for the duration of the pandemic. We have stood united as an industry with two overarching missions: to provide our fellow Wisconsinites healthy, nutritious, and safe foods and beverages, and to protect our essential workers so they can continue to perform their critical work. Throughout the pandemic, the food and beverage supply chain has remained flexible, nimble and resilient. Despite the heartrending impacts of COVID-19, Wisconsin citizens have been able to count on a safe, stable supply of food and beverages to sustain them through this crisis.

We are hopeful that as the State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee reviews the vaccine subcommittee's recommendation, they see the shortcomings of being the only State in the Country to downgrade Wisconsin's food supply employees for vaccination purposes. We believe it is imperative that Wisconsin prioritize food and agriculture – including supermarkets, wholesale distributors, and food manufacturing companies – for vaccination among other key population groups, to help keep workers healthy and to ensure that agricultural and food supply chains remain operating. We ask that your administration and the SMDAC identify food and agriculture workers, defined by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) critical infrastructure designation, as a priority group for vaccination.

Thank you in advance for your re-consideration on behalf of the grocery industry.

Sincerely,
Michelle Kussow



From: [Greg and Monica Glisch](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1b COVID-19 vaccine public comment
Date: Tuesday, January 12, 2021 7:16:34 PM

To whom it may concern. I would like to make a recommendation to include grocery retail workers in the next phase of the vaccine rollout. These individuals have been working tirelessly since the start of this pandemic. When the state shutdown, these employees put themselves in harms way to keep the shelves full for their communities. Their selfless actions provided stability in an unstable environment. They continue to show up to work as the pandemic shows no sign of slowing up. In March and April we heard over and over how thankful people were for the grocery store clerks. I think moving them to the next phase of this vaccine is a great opportunity to thank them for their efforts and also keep them safe as they continue to keep this state moving forward! I appreciate your time!

Greg



Jeffrey A. Grev
Vice President
Legislative Affairs

January 7, 2021
Via Email: Stephanie.Schauer@dhs.wisconsin.gov
and USPS

Hormel Foods Corporation
1 Hormel Place
Austin, MN 55912-3680
Phone 507 437 5411
Fax 507 437 5135
E-Mail jagrev@hormel.com

Stephanie Schauer, Immunization Program Dir.
Department of Health Services
1 West Wilson Street
Madison WI 53703

Dear Stephanie Schauer:

On behalf of Hormel Foods and our food production operation(s) we are reaching out to share information as each state prepares for Phase 1b vaccination to include essential food production workers.

Hormel Foods and/or our subsidiaries have food production operations that have been deemed essential in Wisconsin where we have 2500 employees consisting of 1,400 in Barron, 425 in Beloit, 500 in Sparta and 175 at various farm locations. Because essential food production workers are part of Phase 1b vaccine distribution, we wanted to provide information to help you account for our team members in this next phase.

Our employees at Jennie-O Turkey Store Barron Plant, managed by Chad Nisbit, Plant Manager, tel: 715-537-3131, 34 N 7th Street, Barron, WI 54812; Hormel Foods Beloit Plant, managed by Roger Vos, Plant Manager, tel: 608-365-9504, 3000 Kennedy Drive, Beloit, WI 53511; and Century Foods International, managed by: Tom Miskowski/ Pawel Noland, tel: 608-269-1900, 400 Century Court, Sparta, WI 54656, are in addition to sales offices and farm operations throughout the state, have been working tirelessly to ensure food is available throughout the pandemic. These team members work at a food manufacturing facility that operates up to seven days a week and may have as many as three production shifts. We have onsite medical professionals who have been conducting COVID testing and who are able to help administer the vaccine, as well as sufficient space to designate for safe and effective vaccine administration. In addition to this letter, our production plant managers are reaching out to their local health department contacts to share our employee counts and other relevant details.

We are proud of our KEEP COVID OUT! campaign and our COVID pay program, both leading initiatives that have helped us do our part to keep our team members and our communities safe. As we move to this next phase of vaccine administration, we have already begun communicating in support of the vaccine as we educate our team members about its safety and efficacy. We expect strong participation by our workforce.

Stephanie Schauer

January 7, 2021

Page 2

We have a vaccine advisory committee and human resources professionals who stand ready to help with organization and administration. The point of contact at our company is myself, Jeff Grev - Vice President of Legislative Affairs, I can be reached via e-mail at jagrev@hormel.com or via telephone at 507-226-3728 Mobile or 507-437-5411 Office. Please copy jkbutler@hormel.com on any e-mail communication.

If there is anything we can do to help as you move into this next phase, please don't hesitate to let us know.

Best Regards,



Jeff Grev