



COLORADO HOUSE REPUBLICANS

Monday, November 22, 2021

Statement from the Undersigned Colorado Republican Representatives:

On November 12, the U.S. 5th Circuit Court of Appeals suspended the Biden administration's COVID vaccine mandate for private employers with more than 100 employees due to issues of lack of federal authority and violation of constitutional principles. The court analysis determined that the President and OSHA do not have the legal authority to force private employers and their employees to get the COVID vaccine.

In addition, the 5th Circuit Court stated: "It is clear that a denial of the petitioners' proposed stay would do them irreparable harm. For one, the Mandate threatens to substantially burden the liberty interests of reluctant individual recipients put to a choice between their job(s) and their job(s)."

Government officials are not above the law. The undersigned state legislators oppose federal and state COVID vaccine mandates that are an abuse of authority and violate constitutional principles, including the liberty interests of American citizens. Last week, the U.S. 6th Circuit Court of Appeals was designated to hear the numerous lawsuits challenging government COVID vaccine mandates as illegal government actions. We urge the court to act expeditiously in addressing these critical issues, and that federal and Colorado state officials stay their COVID vaccine mandates.

There has been much discussion of "the public interest" as we struggle through the COVID pandemic. We agree with the 5th Circuit court in its statement: "The public interest is also served by maintaining our constitutional structure and maintaining the liberty of individuals to make intensely personal decisions according to their own convictions..."

Sincerely,

Representative Hugh McKean
House Republican Leader

Representative Tim Geitner
Assistant House Republican Leader



Representative Rod Bockenfeld



Representative Mary Bradfield



Representative Terri Carver



Representative Marc Catlin



Representative Richard Holtorf



Representative Colin Larson



Representative Mike Lynch



Representative Rod Pelton



Representative Andres Pico



Representative Janice Rich



Representative Shane Sandridge



Representative Matt Soper



Representative Tonya Van Beber



Representative Perry Will



Representative Dan Woog