



## Owner-Operator Independent Drivers Association

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September 26, 2022

The Honorable Joe Biden  
President  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Biden,

With reports that Canada plans to end its COVID-19 cross-border vaccine mandate by September 30, we ask that you follow suit and end the vaccination requirement for non-U.S. individuals seeking to enter the United States via land ports of entry at the U.S.-Mexico and U.S.-Canada borders.

The Owner-Operator Independent Drivers Association (OOIDA) is the largest trade association representing the views of small-business truckers and professional truck drivers. OOIDA has over 150,000 members in North America, including nearly 1,000 Canadian drivers. Throughout the COVID-19 emergency, our members and thousands of other professional truckers have been risking their lives to deliver critical goods to communities throughout North America. Prior to January 2022, truckers were safely operating across the U.S.-Canadian border to ensure North Americans had the food and supplies they needed without having to show proof of vaccination or disclosing any other aspects of their personal medical history. In fact, the Department of Homeland Security's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency classified truck drivers as essential to the viability of our nation's infrastructure because trucking is a core component of domestic and global trade.

Since commercial drivers spend the majority of their time alone in their vehicle and outside, there is no evidence that truckers present a higher risk of spreading the virus. Moreover, there is no evidence that truckers have been the source of any coronavirus outbreaks within the United States, suggesting that the cross-border mandate is likely to be having little, if any, effect.

OOIDA has always maintained that vaccination is a personal choice just like any health decision, and we have provided our members with the most up-to-date information about how they can receive COVID-19 vaccines. But for drivers who have made a decision that doesn't comply with the mandate, it has forced them out of business or to change their operations.

Truckers already face difficult working conditions and must comply with an enormous regulatory burden. The United States' cross-border vaccine mandate adds another unnecessary

obstacle for them. Even for drivers who may be in compliance, the continuance of the mandate is just another piece of government red tape for which they have to manage additional paperwork and possible delays.

In a recent interview, you said yourself that, “The pandemic is over.” With this recognition that our country has moved passed the pandemic phase of the public health crisis caused by COVID-19, we think this is a perfect time to move past these mandates.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Todd Spencer".

Todd Spencer  
President & CEO  
Owner-Operator Independent Drivers Association, Inc.