



January 26, 2022

The Honorable Alejandro N. Mayorkas
U.S. Secretary of Homeland Security
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
2707 Martin Luther King Jr Ave SE
Washington, DC 20528-0525

Dear Secretary Mayorkas:

On behalf of the Transportation Intermediaries Association (TIA), our almost 2,000-member companies, and the \$214 billion third-party logistics industry, I am writing in response to your policy of barring unvaccinated Commercial Motor Vehicle (CMV) drivers from entering the country and the disastrous ripple effect that will have on the American economy.

As you know, truck transportation is the most popular mode of transportation for bringing freight into our country. Government data from 2019 shows nearly \$800 million in freight flowed through our three North American countries. It is the most direct and effective method to fill shelves, keep produce fresh, and ensure essential goods are available to help us combat the COVID-19 pandemic. These efforts will be further hindered by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) vaccine mandate for international drivers entering the U.S. Prior to the Supreme Court rendering this Administration's vaccine mandate unconstitutional, U.S. truck drivers were deemed exempt because of the solitary and outdoor nature of their work. That reasoning should hold true with those drivers entering the U.S.

Mr. Secretary, the role our members play in the supply chain is a unique one. Placed between the shipping community and the carrier community, our members have a pulse on the supply chain. Our membership is keenly aware of the supply chain trends and the current disruptions. This order is a disastrous scenario for every stakeholder involved. Our customers, members of the business community who need the product moved are seeing stalled freight, backed-up orders, and the rising cost of doing business, during a time of an unstable economy and record inflation. Our carrier friends are equally as devastated by this order, which as previously noted has been ruled unconstitutional in the United States.

We respectfully ask you to reverse this ill-advised and poorly timed order immediately. TIA's members' sole job is to facilitate the safe and efficient movement of their customers' freight. The Federal government is making our member's role extremely difficult with this mandate, by harshly limiting capacity. Americans face bare shelves and ever-costlier items that do make it to the shelves. We hope you will consider these issues when rolling out future policies, in addition to retracting your order on unvaccinated international drivers entering the country.

If you have any questions about our position on this or any other issues, please do not hesitate to contact me or my Vice-President of Government Affairs, Chris Burroughs. Thank you for your consideration of the matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anne C Reinke".

Anne Reinke
President & CEO

The Voice of the Third-Party Logistics Industry

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