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Contact:

John Sellek, Harbor Strategic

[jbs@harborstrategic.com](mailto:jbs@harborstrategic.com)

517-348-5152

## **New Statewide Business Coalition Asks President Biden To Reconsider His Federal Vaccine Mandate**

**The Listen to MI Business coalition is seeking dialogue with President Biden and OSHA about his new vaccine mandates because employers cannot shoulder this responsibility alone**

LANSING – [Listen to MI Business](#), a new statewide coalition of business and employee advocates launched today, is asking President Biden to reconsider his federal vaccine mandate because employers simply cannot shoulder this responsibility alone.

“Michigan’s employers have been on the front lines of the pandemic, working to reopen safely while protecting their workers and customers and keeping our economy moving,” said **Rich Studley, President & CEO of the Michigan Chamber of Commerce**. “That is why we are asking President Biden to listen to Michigan businesses and reconsider his federal vaccine mandate. Every state and business is different and employers cannot, and should not, be responsible for carrying the full weight of this one-size-fits-all mandate.”

While increasing vaccinations is an important and sensible goal, President Biden’s new top-down COVID vaccination mandate will have a devastating impact on employers, employees, jobs, and our economy.

Members of the Listen to MI Business coalition are deeply concerned about the unintended consequences of the federal mandate because Michigan job creators have already fought fiercely to stay afloat and keep their employees, customers and workplaces safe from COVID-19.

Instead of this massive responsibility being put solely on employers, without listening to their concerns or answering their many questions, businesses and workers should be trusted to work together to determine the best course of action and HR policies that fit and work for them.

Listen to MI Business coalition members are encouraging employers and employees to use the coalition website to contact President Biden and ask him to reconsider the federal vaccine mandate.

“We’re all in this recovery together, and that is why we are strongly encouraging President Biden to reconsider his federal vaccine mandate,” said **Tim Daman, President and CEO of the Lansing Regional Chamber**. “Michigan employers and employees have already teamed up to get our economy moving again and we are ready to discuss additional ways to keep people safe and healthy.”

“The Northern Michigan Chamber Alliance represents over 7,500 businesses, none of which should be solely tasked with carrying the responsibility of a vaccine mandate during an extreme labor shortage. While we agree our employers and government each have a role to play, private businesses must be allowed to make their decision based on what is best for their employees and customers,” said **Warren Call, President and CEO of Traverse Connect**.

“While the Chamber strongly supports vaccinations and businesses that choose to encourage them, it’s very concerning to see this OSHA rule will soon come down without comment or input from the employers who are charged to enforce them,” said **Andy Johnston, Vice President of Government Affairs, Grand Rapids Chamber**. “They are many unanswered questions and this puts job providers in an incredibly difficult position from both a political and logistical position.”

During the coalition announcement, members expressed concerns about:

- **Government Mandates:** Top-down government mandates that limit employer and employee rights will have a devastating impact on Michigan jobs, communities and economy.

look for employment elsewhere.

- **More Division:** The Biden plan unnecessarily pits employers and employees against each other at a time when our economy, communities and families can least afford it.

Visit [ListenToMIBusiness.com](https://www.listenTomIBusiness.com) to take action today.

Initial coalition members include:

Battle Creek Area Chamber  
Grand Rapids Area Chamber  
Lansing Regional Chamber  
Michigan Chamber  
Northern Michigan Chamber Alliance  
Petoskey Regional Chamber  
Saginaw County Chamber  
Traverse Connect

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