November 16, 2021

The Honorable Gretchen Whitmer
State of Michigan
P.O. Box 30013
Lansing, MI 48909

Re: OSHA's COVID-19 Vaccination and Testing ETS

Dear Governor Whitmer:

As Michigan employers grapple with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA) emergency temporary standard (ETS) requiring employers with 100 or more employees to ensure each of their workers is fully vaccinated or tests for COVID-19 on at least a weekly basis, we write to ask for your Administration's support.

Many employers are pursuing the testing option for their workforce and are concerned about testing costs and availability to cover a potentially significant portion of their workforce.

We formally request the Administration's support in procuring and paying for these tests for the duration of the six-month ETS with Federal dollars that that have already been appropriated by the State Legislature for testing and vaccination. Whether through a grant program or other method, any support will help employers and their employees shoulder the incredible burden of complying with this ETS.

While the ETS was stayed by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 5th Circuit, that is only applicable to the 5th Circuit. We are encouraging employers to move forward with crafting policies and implementation strategies to comply with the mandate should it go forward, and the issue of testing supplies are a major concern.

We hope to speak with you or a member of your Administration about this issue soon. Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to your support.

Sincerely,

ABC Michigan
Battle Creek Area Chamber of Commerce
Bay Area Chamber of Commerce
Community Bankers of Michigan
Detroit Regional Chamber
Grand Haven Chamber of Commerce
Grand Rapids Chamber
The Holly Area Chamber of Commerce
Frankenmuth Chamber of Commerce and Convention & Visitors Bureau
Lake Gogebic Area Chamber of Commerce
Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce
Lapeer Chamber of Commerce
Manistee Area Chamber of Commerce
Michigan Aggregates Association
Michigan Bankers Association
Michigan Chamber of Commerce
Michigan Manufacturers Association
Michigan Retailers Association
Michigan West Coast Chamber of Commerce
Midland Business Alliance
Midwest Independent Retailers Association
Muskegon Lakeshore Chamber of Commerce
NFIB
Northern Michigan Chamber Alliance
Petoskey Regional Chamber of Commerce
Saginaw County Chamber of Commerce
Southwest Michigan First
Southwest Michigan Regional Chamber
Small Business Association of Michigan
Traverse Connect

cc: Elizabeth Hertel, Director, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
Sean Egan, Director-COVID Workplace Safety, Michigan Department of Labor & Economic Opportunity
Susan Corbin, Director, Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity
Senator Jim Stamas
Representative Thomas Albert
Senate Majority Leader Mike Shirkey
Speaker of the House Jason Wentworth