

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

June 16, 2021

President Joseph Biden
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Biden,

We write to express concern over the lack of action your administration has taken to provide COVID-19 vaccinations to American citizens who are currently living abroad that are not employed by the U.S. Government, but desire to receive the vaccine.

As many nations receive the nearly 25 million excess COVID-19 vaccines from the United States, it should be noted that many Americans living in these countries will not have access to these vaccines. Many nations will prioritize front-line workers and their own citizens when administering the vaccines. Once all their citizens have received the vaccine, these nations will allow foreign nationals, such as American citizens, to receive these vaccines. Due to the low vaccination rates of these countries, American citizens will face months of waiting for vaccines that their tax dollars helped create. With over 9 million American expatriates, it is imperative that those living abroad are not forgotten.

For Americans Expats, coming back to the United States to get vaccinated can be incredibly time-consuming as the global COVID-19 pandemic has caused international travel to be extraordinarily difficult. Traveling back to the United States for even a single COVID-19 vaccination can cost thousands of dollars and require weeks of quarantine upon return to the citizen's country of residence. For many American Expats, this is simply not an option or a feasible way to receive a potentially lifesaving COVID-19 vaccine.

There should be no significant issue to send COVID-19 vaccines to each U.S. Embassy, as your administration has previously sent these vaccines to our diplomatic missions to ensure that the staff of these missions were properly inoculated. Each embassy maintains a list of Americans who have registered their contact details with the embassy, and the embassy can contact those who have registered about the availability of vaccines.

Americans who live abroad pay taxes to the Federal Government and have contributed to the research and development of COVID-19 vaccinations. Like Americans residing here in the United States, American Expats should have the opportunity to receive COVID-19 vaccines in a quick and efficient manner. We look forward to a timely response that details your administration's plan to deploy excess domestic vaccines to our fellow citizens living abroad.

Sincerely,



Debbie Lesko
Member of Congress



Joe Wilson
Member of Congress



Roger Williams
Member of Congress



Vern Buchanan
Member of Congress



Peter Meijer
Member of Congress



Richard Hudson
Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert
Member of Congress



Nancy Mace
Member of Congress



Brad Wenstrup, D.P.M.
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Devin Nunes
Member of Congress