Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

July 30, 2021

The Honorable Denis McDonough Secretary of Veterans Affairs United States Department of Veterans Affairs 810 Vermont Ave, NW Washington, DC 20420

Dear Secretary McDonough,

We write today in strong opposition to your July 26 announcement to make COVID-19 vaccines mandatory for Title 38 Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) health care personnel. This mandate will require physicians, dentists, podiatrists, optometrists, registered nurses, physician assistants, expanded-function dental auxiliaries, and chiropractors within the VA system to become fully vaccinated within eight weeks or lose their job.

Our nation's veterans and those who care for them deserve to be safe from COVID-19. Fortunately, American innovation and ingenuity has led to the rapid development of vaccines that are now readily available to all within the VA system. Because of this ample access, federal agencies, including the VA, should encourage their employees to consult with their doctor and be free to make an individual decision to receive the vaccine rather than create a blanket requirement for all employees.

Currently, no other federal agency has forced its employees to receive COVID-19 inoculations under penalty of termination, and we do not believe that the VA should be the test subject for this government mandate. We ask you immediately reverse your decision and restore the autonomy of VA health care employees.

Respectfully,

Jeff Duncan

Member of Congress

Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

Claudia Tenney
Claudia Tenney
To
Member of Congress

Marjorio Taylor Greene
Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Brian Mast Member of Congress

Tom McClintock Member of Congress

Ralph Norman Member of Congress

Bob Good Member of Congress Tom Tiffany
Member of Congress

Scott Perry Member of Congress

Lauren Boebert Member of Congress

Diana Harshbarger

Member of Congress

Barry Moore (
Member of Congress

Andy Biggs Member of Congress

Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

MarlE Green

Mark E. Green, M.D. Member of Congress

Russ Fulcher Member of Congress

Matt Gaetz

Member of Congress

Eric A. "Rick" Crawford Member Of Congress

Marksome Mis

Markwayne Mullin Member of Congress

Gregory Steube Member of Congress

Kevin Hern Member of Congress

Randy K. Weber

Member of Congress

Mary E. Miller

Member of Congress