

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF CLACKAMAS COUNTY, STATE OF OREGON**

In the Matter of Addressing the
Inadequate Workforce that
Delivers Health, Safety and
Emergency Services

Resolution No. _____

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Whereas, all Clackamas County employers are concerned about the welfare of their valued workforce and the customers, constituents and patrons they serve at all times; and

Whereas, the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has exhausted many providers of core public services, including first responders, health care providers, public safety, educators and related staff; and

Whereas, the recent surge of COVID-19 cases, due to the Delta variant, has further strained the delivery of those public services and has filled regional hospitals with COVID-19 patients; and

Whereas, in an effort to address this new surge, the State of Oregon has attempted to further increase the percentage of Oregonians who are vaccinated against COVID-19 by imposing vaccine mandates for certain sectors, including education, healthcare, emergency services, public safety and state workers; and

Whereas, Clackamas County as the local public health authority has undertaken extensive efforts to vaccinate over 70% of county adults and continue to provide COVID-19 vaccines to anyone in coordination with partners; and

Whereas, the Board of County Commissioners anticipates that the state mandate of COVID-19 vaccinations could have a detrimental impact on the delivery of healthcare, education, public safety and emergency services within Clackamas County; and

Whereas, the state mandate of COVID-19 vaccinations could result in the loss of employment and income to Clackamas County families causing further hardships; and

Whereas, the Board of County Commissioners recognizes that another state shutdown due to lack of workforce that delivers critical services or continued lack of hospital capacity would be devastating for the mental health and economic viability of its residents and businesses.

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NOW THEREFORE, the Clackamas County Board of Commissioners do hereby resolve and affirm that:

1. Clackamas County Public Health continues to offer free and accessible COVID-19 vaccinations to anyone in coordination with our partners.
2. The Board of Commissioners requests that the State of Oregon immediately reevaluate the terms of its vaccine mandate to consider all options and alternatives that could prevent further exhaustion and departure of core public service providers, for example:
 - a. Extension of the deadline to be fully vaccinated
 - b. Regular COVID testing
 - c. Recognition of natural immunity
 - d. Recognition of effective, proven technologies in the workplace
3. The Board of Commissioners will advocate that the Oregon Legislature take action that allows for easy, transferrable licensure agreements between states for healthcare providers.
4. The Board of Commissioners encourages the Governor to engage in listening sessions with the business community and public immediately to hear directly about workforce issues and concerns related to the pandemic from the shared constituency.

DATED this 16th day of September, 2021

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Chair

Recording Secretary