

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

December 23, 2020

The Honorable Robert C. O'Brien
National Security Advisor
National Security Council
West Executive Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

The Honorable Alex Azar
Secretary
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20201

The Honorable Michael J. Rigas
Acting Director
Office of Personnel Management
1900 E Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20405

Dear National Security Advisor O'Brien, Secretary Azar, and Acting Director Rigas:

After weeks of no substantive response to my staff's inquiry, I write to request any and all COVID-19 vaccine distribution plans or guidance for federal employees. In the interim, we have learned through reporting that some agencies have begun vaccinating their employees and have developed their own plans or guidance on vaccine distribution.¹

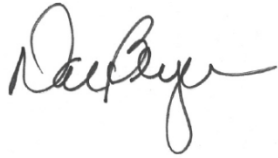
Federal employees need to know the vaccine guidelines for their agency, if they can expect their employing agency to administer their vaccine and what is expected to access it. If not, it needs to be communicated to their corresponding State and local public health department if they qualify as frontline, as an essential worker, and that they make plans to get vaccinated through their healthcare provider.

Without this notification, States and localities will not know which federal employees need to be covered under their distribution plans rather than under the federal distribution plan. It is imperative that States and localities be able to properly identify the members in their community to whom they will be responsible for administering vaccines.

I request your expediency on this issue given the urgency of vaccine distribution around the country. Please respond with the Agencies expecting to administer their own vaccines, the status of the guidelines of those agencies, the expectations of agencies not administering their own vaccines, and please indicate what is being done to notify States and local public health

departments for employees not eligible for an agency administered vaccine, and the number of employees expected to covered through their employer no later than Wednesday, December 30th, 2020.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Beyer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and a long, sweeping underline.

Donald S. Beyer Jr.
Member of Congress

¹ Ogrysko, Nicole. "State Department, VA Detail Initial COVID-19 Vaccination Plans for Employees." *Federal News Network*, 16 Dec. 2020, federalnewsnetwork.com/workforce/2020/12/state-department-va-detail-initial-covid-19-vaccination-plans-for-employees/.