

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

January 24, 2022

President Joseph R. Biden, Jr.  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Biden,

Your administration cannot use the power of the federal government to track the applications of federal employees who have applied for a religious exemption for the COVID-19 vaccine. From day one, your administration has displayed a consistent attitude of contempt towards Americans who prioritize faith in their lives. Your administration's attempt to use the power of the federal government to single out Americans who object to the COVID-19 vaccine on religious grounds is inexcusable and must be withdrawn.

On January 11, 2022, the Pretrial Services Agency for the District of Columbia issued a notice in the Federal Register that it would create a new records system to track the "personal religious information" that the agency will be collecting for employees who requested a religious exemption to your administration's misguided COVID-19 vaccine mandate.<sup>1</sup>

Shockingly, the Pretrial Services Agency did not provide a justified rationale for why such an invasive database was needed for the agency to properly operate. Instead, the notice in the Federal Register simply states that the "system of records will assist the Agency in the collection, storing, dissemination, and disposal of employee religious exemption request information collected and maintained by the Agency[.]"<sup>2</sup> This proffered explanation does nothing to describe why the Pretrial Services Agency needs to maintain a list of the personal religious beliefs of its employees. The agency's failure to adequately justify its own policy perfectly illustrates the animus that your administration has shown towards people of faith.

It has also been discovered that your administration has not limited its executive overreach to the Pretrial Services Agency. Reporting from *The Daily Signal* has confirmed that "at least 19 total federal agencies—including five cabinet level agencies" have created or have proposed to create tracking lists for religious-exemption requests for their employees from the COVID-19 vaccine mandate.<sup>3</sup> A majority of the notices do not explain how long the agency plans to store the data, why the agency needs to share the data between federal agencies, or why the agency needs to keep the data beyond a decision to grant or deny an employee's religious accommodation request.<sup>4</sup> Your administration has offered no valid

---

<sup>1</sup> Privacy Act of 1974; System of Records, 87 Fed. Reg. 1402 (proposed Jan. 11, 2022), <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2022/01/11/2021-28135/privacy-act-of-1974-system-of-records>.

<sup>2</sup> *Id.*

<sup>3</sup> Sarah Parshall Perry & GianCarlo Canaparo, *18 More Federal Agencies Eye Making Vaccine Religious-Objector Lists*, THE DAILY SIGNAL, Jan. 15, 2022, <https://www.dailysignal.com/2022/01/15/18-more-federal-agencies-eye-making-vaccine-religious-objector-lists/>.

<sup>4</sup> *Id.*

justification for these intrusive databases that will only be used to target Americans who have refused a COVID-19 vaccine because of their religious convictions.

The actions that your administration is taking to target federal employees who have applied for a religious exemption to the vaccine mandate will have an immediate chilling effect on an employee's exercise of his constitutionally protected right to freedom of religion.

In order to address these concerns, please provide an immediate response by February 11, 2022, outlining what steps your administration is taking to ensure that the federal government is not targeting Americans based on their decision to apply for a religious exemption to the vaccine mandate.

Sincerely,



Andy Biggs  
Member of Congress



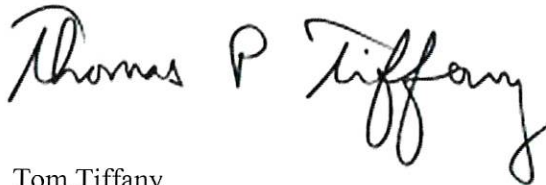
Jeff Duncan  
Member of Congress



Marjorie Taylor Greene  
Member of Congress



Alex X. Mooney  
Member of Congress



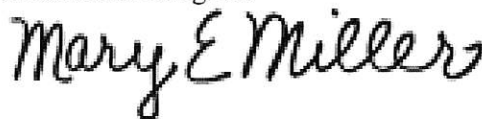
Tom Tiffany  
Member of Congress



Bob Good  
Member of Congress



Ralph Norman  
Member of Congress



Mary E. Miller  
Member of Congress



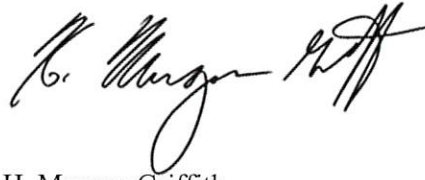
Ben Cline  
Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert  
Member of Congress



Lisa McClain  
Member of Congress



H. Morgan Griffith  
Member of Congress



Dan Bishop  
Member of Congress



Lauren Boebert  
Member of Congress



Andy Harris, M.D.  
Member of Congress



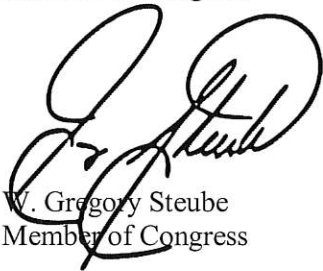
Chip Roy  
Member of Congress



Rodney Davis  
Member of Congress



Glenn Grothman  
Member of Congress



W. Gregory Steube  
Member of Congress



Debbie Lesko  
Member of Congress



Kevin Hern  
Member of Congress



Scott Perry  
Member of Congress

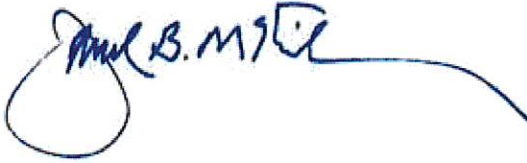




David Schweikert  
Member of Congress



Bob Gibbs  
Member of Congress



David B. McKinley, P.E.  
Member of Congress



Clay Higgins  
Member of Congress



Madison Cawthorn  
Member of Congress



Matthew M. Rosendale Sr.  
Member of Congress



Ted Budd  
Member of Congress



Vicky Hartzler  
Member of Congress



Andrew Clyde  
Member of Congress



Matt Gaetz  
Member of Congress



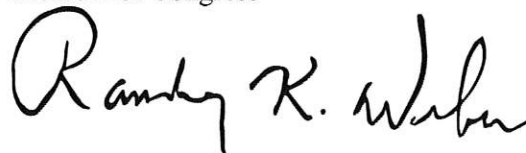
Kat Cammack  
Member of Congress



Warren Davidson  
Member of Congress



Diana Harshbarger  
Member of Congress



Randy K. Weber  
Member of Congress



Bill Posey  
Member of Congress



Jody Hice  
Member of Congress



Mo Brooks  
Member of Congress



Doug Lamborn  
Member of Congress



Rick W. Allen  
Member of Congress