

February 10, 2021

The Honorable Norris Cochran
Acting Secretary
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20201

Robert Fenton, Jr.
Senior Official Performing the Duties of the
FEMA Administrator
Federal Emergency Management Agency
500 C Street SW
Washington, DC 20472

Dear Acting Secretary Cochran and Senior Official Fenton:

We write to request the federal government directly supply and distribute COVID-19 vaccinations to individuals in our jurisdictions for whom the federal government has direct and sole responsibility—specifically, essential federal employees in the National Capital Region, detainees residing in Immigration and Customs Enforcement facilities, and defense contractors identified as essential to national security.

The District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia are focused on vaccinating our residents according to the framework recommended by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Under the current framework, federal critical infrastructure would be vaccinated according to each federal essential worker's morbidity and mortality phase as determined by their respective state. However, federal agencies have acted to prioritize certain federal employees, contractors, and ICE detainees. The District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia simply do not have the resources available to support these priority vaccinations, due to the additional burden on local resources that this mission would require—especially when considering the amount of vaccine each state receives.

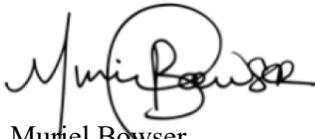
The federal Office of Personnel Management [reports that](#) more than 281,000 Federal Civilian Employees work in the National Capital Region around the nation's capital. The Federal government has identified more than 10% of these workers—more than 30,000 individuals—as critical personnel to ensuring the continuity of national societal functions. These are employees and contractors of the Executive Branch, the Legislative Branch, the Judicial Branch, Independent Agencies (such as the USPS and the Federal Reserve), and the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) in the National Capital Region who are critical to maintaining operations of the federal government.

As such the region requests:

1. Dedicated allocation of vaccine and associated supplies to support the vaccination of essential federal workers, contractors, and WMATA employees within the National Capital Region. This allocation should come from federal supply and should not be taken from the supply of DC, Maryland, or Virginia.
2. A federally supported and operated vaccination site for all essential federal workers, contractors, and WMATA employees within the National Capital Region. We commit to working with you to identify a site that is easily accessible.
3. Coordinated messaging to employees regarding vaccination efforts for the federal workforce.

Further, we would respectfully request the Federal government continue to expand its vaccination efforts to the entire NCR-based federal workforce as additional supply becomes available and as future phases of the vaccination effort open. We welcome the opportunity to support the Administration's efforts to ensure the continuity of operations for the United States federal government.

Sincerely,



Muriel Bowser
Mayor



Lawrence Hogan
Governor



Ralph Northam
Governor