

Employer Members

AAF International
Aegion Corporation
Alpha Packaging
Ameren Corporation
Anheuser-Busch Companies, LLC
Arch Resources, Inc.
Barry-Wehmiller Companies, Inc.
Bass Pro Shops, Inc.
Bi-State Development/Metro
Black & Veatch Holding Company
The Boeing Company
Bunzl Distribution USA, Inc.
Caleres
Charter Communications
City of St. Louis
Columbia Public Schools
Concordia Plan Services
Core & Main, LP
Daikin Applied Americas Inc.
Diocese of Springfield in Illinois
The Doe Run Company
Drury Hotels Company, LLC
Edward Jones
Emmaus Homes
Enterprise Bank & Trust
ESCO Technologies Inc.
Ferguson-Florissant School District
First Busey Corporation
Francis Howell School District
Frontline Managed Services
Graybar Electric Company, Inc.
L. Keeley Construction
Laird Connectivity
McCarthy Holdings, Inc.
Mississippi Lime Company
North American Lighting, Inc.
Northwest R-I School District
Olin Corporation
Panera, LLC
Parkway School District
Pattonville School District
Peabody
Robert Half International, Inc.
Rockwood School District
Saint Louis County
Saint Louis Public Schools
Schnuck Markets, Inc.
Shelter Insurance
Special School District of St. Louis County
Spire Inc.
Sulzer US Holding, Inc.
Sunnen Products Company
Tucson Electric Power
UniGroup, Inc.
Watlow
WestRock Co.
Wieland North America
World Wide Technology, LLC

Sustaining Members

Aon
Arthur J. Gallagher & Co.
Lockton Companies, LLC
Mercer
Milliman
Willis Towers Watson

September 1, 2021

The Honorable Mike Parson
Missouri State Capitol Room 216
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

Dear Governor Parson:

I am writing to you on behalf of the St. Louis Area Business Health Coalition (BHC) and its members. Our network of 70 employers represent public and private-sector enterprises across a diverse range of industries, providing health benefits to over 500,000 lives in Missouri and many more across the nation. We implore you to continue to uphold the right of private businesses to implement and enforce COVID-19 vaccine policies for the health, safety, and economic well-being of their employees and customers.

Workforce safety and sustainability are top priorities of Missouri business leaders, and vaccine policies are critical to achieving both. Current case law supports an employer's ability to mandate vaccination and to require proof of vaccination for onsite interactions among employees, customers, and business partners. Any efforts to impede vaccine mandates among businesses is an intrusion on the rights of employers to provide for the health and safety of their workers and ensure operational and fiscal sustainability. We appreciate that you have not called a special session to consider legislation prohibiting COVID-19 vaccine mandates.

Some of the largest advancements in public health are due to the development of vaccines against serious infectious diseases, and COVID-19 is no different. While we also acknowledge the rights of individuals to choose not to be vaccinated, we cannot allow these decisions to threaten the health and economic security of others. Widespread vaccination is a critical step in helping our state recover from the pandemic and in preventing future threats.

Issues of public health and safety should not be politicized. The BHC and our employer members strongly urge that you and Missouri legislative leaders continue to uphold the right of individual businesses in encouraging immunization across our state.

Regards,

Louise Y. Probst

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Executive Director

Copied: Senator David Schatz, Senator Caleb Rowden, Senator John Rizzo, Senator Rick Brattin, Senator Bill Eigel, Senator Denny Hoskins, Senator Mike Moon, Senator Bob Onder, Senator Holly Rehder, and Representative Rob Vescovo.