

Assembly Bill 1993

Workplace Vaccination Mandate
Assemblymember Buffy Wicks (AD-15)

THIS BILL

This bill will mandate all businesses to require their employees, or independent contractors, receive the COVID-19 vaccine.

THE ISSUE

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), reports that getting vaccinated against COVID-19 lowers the risk of contracting and spreading the COVID-19 virus, and further prevents serious illness and death. In accordance with CDC guidelines, California has taken steps to ensure that residents have access to free, life-saving COVID-19 vaccines. However, despite critical action taken by state and federal officials, the COVID-19 virus continues to pose a grave threat to our residents and economic well-being.

Federal, states, local governments and individual businesses are enacting vaccine mandates aimed at decreasing outbreaks. However, piecemeal protocols create uncertainty and an inability for businesses to comply with workplace safety measures in an effort to protect employees who are at risk, or working in highly transmissible environments, like our frontline workers. It is imperative that California establish a statewide standard to help businesses conform and ultimately increase vaccination rates among the public.

SOLUTION

In an effort to increase statewide vaccination rates, AB 1993 will require:

1. Businesses to require their employees, including independent contractors, to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19.
2. An employee or contractor to test if that individual qualifies for a medical or religious exemption.
3. New hires to have at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine by the time of their start date, and the second dose within 45 days.
4. A penalty for businesses that are non-compliant.
5. The California Division of Occupational Safety and Health to work in consultation with the California Department of Public Health to provide guidance to employers on what constitutes a medical condition, disability, religious belief and valid vaccination status.

This bill shall remain in effect until the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices determines that COVID-19 vaccinations are no longer necessary for the health and safety of individuals.

SUPPORT

Protect US

CONTACT

Melanie Morelos
Office of Assemblymember Wicks
melanie.morelos@asm.ca.gov