

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

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JANICE HAHN

SUPERVISOR, FOURTH DISTRICT

December 16, 2020

Governor Gavin Newsom 1303 10th Street, Suite 1173 Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Newsom and Acting State Public Health Officer, Dr. Erica Pan:

As you develop recommendations for prioritizing essential workers for vaccinations, I urge you to include teachers and school personnel in tier one of Phase 1B.

If it was ever up for debate before, this pandemic has made it clear once and for all that our classroom teachers are essential. Although teachers have gone above and beyond to teach their students during distance learning, school closures have been one of the most consequential and painful aspects of this pandemic. Kids are falling behind, and parents are struggling to juggle their own jobs and supervise their children's education.

Teachers want to get back to their classrooms, and some already are. But many of them are in high risk groups that are most vulnerable to this virus and others live with family members who are at high risk. We need to reopen our schools, and that means vaccinating teachers as soon as possible.

We need teachers back in their classrooms. They are essential to our kids, our families, and our economy. California's vaccine distribution plan should reflect that fact. I urge you to include teachers and school personnel in the first tier of Phase 1B of our vaccination effort.

Sincerely,

Janice Hahn

Supervisor, Fourth District

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County of Los Angeles