



ILWU/PMA
JOINT PACIFIC COAST MARINE SAFETY CODE COMMITTEE

International Longshore and
Warehouse Union
1188 Franklin Street, 4th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94109

Pacific Maritime Association
555 Market Street, 3rd Floor
San Francisco, CA 94105

January 20, 2021

The Honorable Jay Inslee
Governor of the State of Washington
PO Box 40002
Olympia, WA 98504

Re: COVID-19 Vaccinations for Dockworkers

Dear Governor Inslee:

We write to respectfully request your assistance in prioritizing and securing sufficient COVID-19 vaccine for essential dockworkers in West Coast Ports.

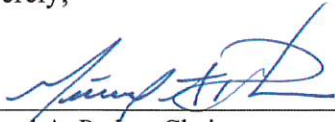
As we continue to weather the current COVID-19 surge, port workers contracting COVID-19 could have disastrous consequences for the movement of goods, food, and medical supplies that Americans are depending upon in this time of crisis. This includes especially critical pandemic response goods, medical equipment, and more. Over the past month, we have seen a significant increase in cases of West Coast dock workers falling ill, taking the exposed individuals out of the workforce, further exacerbating the constraints on supply chains.

The International Longshore Warehouse Union (ILWU) and the Pacific Maritime Association (PMA) employers have jointly worked to take steps to address COVID-19 prevention through collective bargaining agreements to keep workers safe on the docks, while they serve to ensure the continued movement of critical supplies and other goods. We believe, however, that the most effective solution is to get these dock workers, of which there are approximately 23,000 in the 29 U.S. West Coast ports, vaccinated as soon as possible.

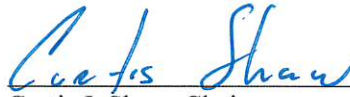
Therefore, we ask that state health officials move up the essential dock workers currently in the Phase 1B tier 2 designation in order to prioritize these workers for the early receipt of the COVID-19 vaccine.

We are available to discuss this request at your convenience.

Sincerely,



Michael A. Podue, Chairman
ILWU Coast Safety Committee



Curtis J. Shaw, Chairman
Employer Coast Safety Committee

Copies:

ILWU/PMA Joint Coast Labor Relations Committee
ILWU/PMA Joint Coast Safety Committee