

March 25, 2022

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden Jr. President of the United States The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

As the country moves into the next phase of the COVID-19 pandemic, I write to you today on behalf of the American Bus Association (ABA) to request that the Administration sunset the federal transportation mask mandate currently scheduled to be in place until April 18, 2022.

American Bus Association is the leading trade association in the United States representing the private motorcoach industry. At ABA we represent 800 motorcoach companies, ranging from the largest with over 1,000 motorcoaches, to the smallest operators with only one or two motorcoaches. Our motorcoach operators offer a variety of services, including scheduled intercity service over regular routes, charter service, tour service, commuter bus service, transit service and special operations. Our members have been some of the hardest hit financially during this pandemic and are now struggling to get back to prepandemic business levels. We believe that lifting the mask mandate will help facilitate our recovery.

Federal, state, and local government restrictions around the country are being lifted, while the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) recently extended the current mandate for mask use on public transportation and transportation hubs through April 18, 2022. The science clearly supports lifting the mask mandates, as demonstrated by the recently released Centers for Disease Control (CDC) framework indicating that 99 percent of the U.S. population no longer need to wear masks indoors. Lifting the mask mandate on public transportation and in transportation hubs can be done safely.

We are requesting that the mandate be lifted on behalf of our members and the traveling public. We look forward to continuing to work with you and your Administration to keep America moving.

Sincerely,

Peter J. Pantuso
President & CEO

American Bus Association