

117TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION

S. 2847

To prohibit the Federal Government from mandating vaccination against COVID-19 for interstate travel.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

September 23, 2021

Mr. Lee introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To prohibit the Federal Government from mandating vaccination against COVID-19 for interstate travel.

- 1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
- 2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
- 3 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.
- 4 This Act may be cited as the "Let Me Travel America
- 5 Act".
- 6 SEC. 2. LIMITATION ON AUTHORITY OF SURGEON GEN-
- 7 ERAL.
- 8 Section 361 of the Public Health Service Act (42
- 9 U.S.C. 264) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
- 10 lowing:

- 1 "(f) Nothing in this section shall be construed to pro-
- 2 vide the Surgeon General, the Secretary of Health and
- 3 Human Services, or any Federal agency with the authority
- 4 to mandate vaccination against Coronavirus Disease 2019
- 5 (COVID-19) as a prerequisite for interstate travel, trans-
- 6 portation, or movement.".

7 SEC. 3. INTERSTATE COMMON CARRIERS.

- 8 (a) In General.—Chapter 805 of title 49, United
- 9 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
- 10 lowing:

11 "§ 80505. COVID-19 vaccination status

- 12 "(a) IN GENERAL.—An entity described in subsection
- 13 (b) may not deny service to any individual solely based
- 14 on the vaccination status of the individual with respect
- 15 to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19).
- 16 "(b) Entity Described.—An entity referred to in
- 17 subsection (a) is a common carrier or any other entity,
- 18 including a rail carrier (as defined in section 10102, in-
- 19 cluding Amtrak), a motor carrier (as defined in section
- 20 13102), a water carrier (as defined in that section), and
- 21 an air carrier (as defined in section 40102), that—
- 22 "(1) provides interstate transportation of pas-
- sengers; and

- 1 "(2) is subject to the jurisdiction of the Depart-
- 2 ment of Transportation or the Surface Transpor-
- 3 tation Board under this title.
- 4 "(c) Savings Provision.—Nothing in this section
- 5 applies to the regulation of intrastate travel, transpor-
- 6 tation, or movement, including the intrastate transpor-
- 7 tation of passengers.".
- 8 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chap-
- 9 ter 805 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by
- 10 inserting after the item relating to section 80504 the fol-
- 11 lowing:

"80505. COVID-19 vaccination status.".

12 SEC. 4. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.

- Nothing in this Act, or an amendment made by this
- 14 Act, shall be construed to permit or otherwise authorize
- 15 Congress or an executive agency to enact or otherwise im-
- 16 pose a COVID-19 vaccine mandate.

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