



HENRY McMMASTER
GOVERNOR

July 9, 2021

Mr. Mark Elam
Chairman
South Carolina Board of Health and Environmental Control
2600 Bull Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Chairman Elam,

Earlier this week, President Biden announced plans for the federal government to “send people door to door. . . .to get help to the remaining people protected from the virus.” Biden Administration officials have publicly described their plans as “targeted community door-to-door outreach.”

Thanks to the tremendous ongoing efforts of the Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) - working collaboratively with state and local healthcare organizations - South Carolinians have been provided access to all available information about the vaccine as well as access to the vaccine itself.

A South Carolinian’s decision to get vaccinated is a personal one for them to make and not the government’s. Enticing, coercing, intimidating, mandating, or pressuring anyone to take the vaccine is a bad policy which will deteriorate the public’s trust and confidence in the State’s vaccination efforts. The prospect of government vaccination teams showing up unannounced or unrequested at the door of “targeted” homeowners or on their property will further deteriorate the public’s trust and could lead to potentially disastrous public safety consequences.

For those reasons, I ask the DHEC board to promptly issue direction to agency leadership and to state and local healthcare organizations prohibiting the use of the Biden Administration’s “targeted” “door to door” tactics in the State’s ongoing vaccination efforts.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Henry McMaster".

Henry McMaster