

NATIONAL BORDER PATROL COUNCIL

BRANDON JUDD / President 2185 West Magee Road, Suite 125 – Tucson, AZ 85742

PROTECTING THOSE WHO PROTECT OUR BORDERS

October 6, 2021

The Honorable Andy Biggs U.S. House of Representatives 171 Cannon House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Biggs:

On behalf of rank-and-file Border Patrol agents nationwide, the National Border Patrol Council (NBPC) is proud to formally endorse your legislation, H.R. 5360, the "Freedom from Mandates Act."

Yet again, you have demonstrated your unwavering support for the men and women on the frontlines of securing our border. Border Patrol agents are entrusted to protect our homeland from deadly narcotics, dangerous criminals and potential terrorists, yet these same agents are not trusted by the Biden Administration to make decisions about their own personal health and well-being. We are grateful that your legislation would give agents the ability to make their own personal health care choices once again.

As you are well aware, morale amongst rank-and-file agents is at its lowest point ever. After months of crisis and chaos at our border, with no leadership or strategy to bring any level of control to the flow of illegal crossings in the foreseeable future, agents across the country are at a breaking point. Add to this, the demonization of agents for doing their jobs by our bosses, and now President Biden's vaccine mandate, and it should be no surprise that countless agents are currently seeking new career opportunities outside of the Border Patrol. After years of attrition and critically low staffing levels, and in the midst of a historic crisis at the border, there is not a worse time to face mass resignations and terminations directly caused by this vaccine mandate. Of course, none of these points highlight the hypocrisy in President Biden's mandate for Border Patrol agents when the illegal border crossers we encounter everyday are released into the country without a similar mandate.

Again, we commend you for your leadership and sponsorship of H.R. 5360, the "Freedom from Mandates Act," and we urge Congress to immediately pass it. Thank you for your steadfast support for rank-and-file Border Patrol agents who work each and every day to enforce our laws and protect our borders.

Sincerely,

Brandon Judd President