



Legislation Text

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CITY of ALBUQUERQUE
TWENTY FIFTH COUNCIL

COUNCIL BILL NO. F/S R-22-2 ENACTMENT NO. _____

SPONSORED BY: Dan Lewis

RESOLUTION

F/S Setting City Policy Banning COVID-19 Vaccine Requirements For City Employees (Lewis)

SETTING CITY POLICY BANNING COVID-19 VACCINE REQUIREMENTS FOR CITY
EMPLOYEES.

WHEREAS, On March 17, 2020, pursuant to Albuquerque's Civil Emergency Powers Ordinance, Mayor Tim Keller declared a Local State of Emergency throughout the City of Albuquerque due to the effects of the novel coronavirus COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, A number of public health measures aimed at reducing transmission of COVID-19 have been implemented at the Federal, State, and Local levels, including but not limited to: face-covering requirements, social distancing requirements, occupancy limits, limitations on gatherings, encouraging increased hand washing, infection testing, contact-tracing, isolation and quarantine, reduction of in-person operations for businesses, closure of "non-essential" businesses, travel restrictions, school closures, cancellation of public events and other mass gatherings, and vaccinations; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 vaccination rates are increasing in the City of Albuquerque, with over 81% of Bernalillo County being fully vaccinated and over 94% of County residents having at least one shot; and

WHEREAS, The City urges all residents and City employees to receive safe and effective vaccines, however, doing so should be voluntary; and

WHEREAS, The public interest is served by maintaining the liberty of individuals to make intensely personal decisions according to their own convictions and comfort with personal medical

decisions; and

WHEREAS, The decision whether to vaccinate is a personal choice, and City employees should not be coerced into making the decision based on fear of employment-related consequences; and

WHEREAS, A City vaccine mandate may lead to employee resignations, further exacerbating the City's shortage of public safety personnel; and

WHEREAS, Attempts to implement vaccine mandates at the Federal and State level have faced intense opposition and legal challenges and have been repeatedly suspended and overturned throughout the country.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL, THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE:

SECTION 1. Article 3 of the Albuquerque Code of Resolutions, "City Employees" is amended to add a new section, Section "3-3-20", as follows:

"§ 3-3-20 No City Mandates for COVID-19 Vaccination. It shall be the policy of the City that, no City of Albuquerque employee will be required to obtain and/or provide proof of COVID-19 vaccination, and there shall be no consequence for an employee opting to not get vaccinated."

SECTION 2. COMPILATION. Section 1 of this Resolution shall be incorporated in and made part of the Albuquerque Code of Resolutions, Chapter 3, Article 3, as "COVID-19 Vaccination Ban."

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