

U.S. TRAVEL ASSOCIATION®

Dr. Ashish Jha

Coronavirus Response Coordinator
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

May 5, 2022

Dear Dr. Jha:

We encourage the Administration to expeditiously terminate the inbound testing requirement for vaccinated air travelers.

As President Biden said in his State of the Union speech, we have now reached a new moment in the fight against COVID-19. Stronger immunity provided by vaccinations, boosters and prior infections, as well as effective treatments to prevent the worst outcomes of COVID-19, have enabled Americans to safely return to work, schools and normal activities—all without the need for indoor masks, frequent testing and physical distancing. These factors strongly support the elimination of the pre-departure testing requirement for vaccinated international air travelers.

The wide range of public health tools to effectively manage COVID-19, combined with hospital-grade ventilation systems onboard airplanes and the inbound vaccination requirement, have also made international air travel safer than ever. While there is no longer a need for an inbound testing requirement for vaccinated travelers, the economic costs associated with maintaining the measure are significant:

- Business travel spending was still 56% below 2019 levels; and
- International travel spending was still down a staggering 78% compared to 2019.

Many foreign governments with similar infection, vaccination and hospitalization rates—including the United Kingdom, Germany, and Canada—have eliminated pre-departure testing requirements for vaccinated travelers. Further, since the federal government does not require negative tests for entry at our land-border ports of entry with Canada and Mexico, it no longer makes sense to keep a pre-departure COVID-19 testing requirement in place for vaccinated inbound international air travelers to the U.S.

Given the slow economic recovery of the business and international travel sectors, and in light of medical advancements and the improved public health metrics in the U.S., we encourage you to immediately remove the inbound testing requirement for vaccinated air travelers.

Sincerely,

U.S. TRAVEL ASSOCIATION®

CORPORATIONS

Accor
American Airlines
BWH Hotel Group
Caesars Entertainment
Carnival Corporation
Choice Hotels International
Delta Air Lines
Disney Parks, Experiences and Products
Emirates Airline
Encore
Enterprise Holdings
Expedia Group
Herschend Enterprises
Hilton
Hyatt Hotels Corporation
IDEMIA North America
IHG Hotels & Resorts
Marriott International
MGM Resorts International
Nikko Hotels International
Omni Hotels & Resorts
Southwest Airlines
United Airlines
Universal Parks and Resorts
Venetian Resort Las Vegas
Wyndham Hotels & Resorts, Inc.

AIRPORTS

Chicago Department of Aviation
Denver International Airport
Los Angeles World Airports
Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority
Miami International Airport
Philadelphia International Airport
Port Authority of New York and New Jersey
Portland International Airport
San Diego International Airport
San Francisco International Airport
Tampa International Airport

NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Airlines for America
Airports Council International - North America
American Hotel & Lodging Association
American Society of Travel Advisors
Asian American Hotel Owners Association
Associated Luxury Hotels International
Consumer Technology Association
Cruise Lines International Association
Destinations International
Exhibitions & Conferences Alliance
International Association of Amusement Parks and Attractions
International Association of Exhibitions and Events
International Inbound Travel Association
International Society of Hotel Associations
Meeting Professionals International
National Association of Manufacturers
National Park Hospitality Association
National Tour Association
Professional Convention Management Association
Society of Independent Show Organizers
Student Youth Travel Association
Travel Technology Association
U.S. Chamber of Commerce
United States Tour Operators Association
U.S. Travel Association

OTHER ASSOCIATIONS, SMALL AND MID-SIZED BUSINESSES

Atlanta Convention & Visitors Bureau (ACVB)
Arlington Convention & Visitors Bureau
Arizona Lodging & Tourism Association
Associated Equipment Distributors
ATL Airport District CVB
Aurora Area Convention and Visitors Bureau
Best Western Pony Soldier
Bismarck-Mandan Convention & Visitors Bureau
Branson Chamber & CVB
Broadway Inbound
Butler County Tourism
Catalina Express
California Travel Association
Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport
Circle Wisconsin
CityPASS
Civitas

U.S. TRAVEL

ASSOCIATION®

Clark-Floyd Counties Convention & Tourism Bureau
Commonwealth Hotels
Connect Travel
Coraggio Group LLC
Cortland County Convention & Visitors Bureau
CRVA/Visit Charlotte
Destination Analysts
Destination Augusta GA
Destination DC
Destination Door County
Destination Madison
Destination Niagara USA
Destination Panama City (PCCDC)
Destinations Wisconsin
Digital Edge
Discover Destinations LLC
Discover Flagstaff
Discover Green Bay
Discover Puerto Rico
Evans Hotels
Experience Florida's Sports Coast
Experience Kissimmee
Explore Fairbanks
Explore St Louis
Extranomical Tours
Fargo-Moorhead CVB
Fenway Park Tours
Fort Myers -- Islands, Beaches & Neighborhoods
G2 Travel
Gather Media Network, LLC
Georgia's Rome Office of Tourism
Georgia Association of Convention & Visitors Bureaus, Inc.
Glacier Country Tourism
Global Hospitality Marketing Link, Inc.
Go City
Go Global Travel
Grand Beach Hotel Group
Greater Birmingham CVB
Greater Boston Convention and Visitors Bureau
Greater Folsom Partnership
Greater Miami Convention & Visitors Bureau
Greater Newark Convention And Visitors Bureau
Greater Raleigh Convention & Visitors Bureau
Greene County Ohio Convention & Visitors Bureau
Gulf Shores & Orange Beach Tourism
Hayward Lakes Visitors and Convention Bureau
Hilton Head Island - Bluffton Chamber of Commerce
Historic Tours of America
Hostelling International USA
Houston First Corporation
Huntsville/Madison County Convention & Visitors Bureau
Irving Convention & Visitors Bureau
Kelly Tours - Grayline Savannah & Beaufort
Kentucky Travel Industry Association
Ketchikan Visitors Bureau
Lake Tahoe Visitors Authority
Lakes Region Tourism Association
Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority
Leading Companies International
Longwoods International
Los Angeles Tourism & Convention Board
Louisiana Travel Association
Luray Caverns
Mackinac Island Convention & Visitors Bureau
Madden Media
Maine Office of Tourism
Mall of America
Manitowoc Area Visitor & Convention Bureau
Maritz Holdings and Maritz Global Events
Maryland Tourism Coalition
Mat-Su CVB
Mears Transportation
meetNKY | Northern Kentucky Visitors Bureau
Miles Partnership
Miracle Mile Shops, Las Vegas
Misha Tours
Mississippi Tourism Association
Myrtle Beach Area Chamber and CVB
Naples, Marco Island & Everglades CVB
National Park Express
Natural Bridge Caverns
New Orleans & Company
New Smyrna Beach Area Visitors Bureau
North Dakota Department of Commerce
NYC & Company
Oklahoma Travel Industry Association
Orlando Magic
OTS Globe
Paradise Advertising & Marketing
Port Aransas Tourism Bureau & Chamber of

U.S. TRAVEL ASSOCIATION®

Commerce
Port of Seattle - Tourism Department
Railbookers Group
Rancho Cordova Travel & Tourism
Reno Tahoe
Resorts World Las Vegas
Richard Reasons
RMI Destination Marketing
Road.Travel
Rocky Mountain Holiday Tours
Rocky Mountaineer
Samantha Brown Media Inc
San Francisco Travel Association
San Diego Tourism Authority
San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance
Santa Monica Travel and Tourism
Sawgrass Recreation Park
Searchwide Global
Shreveport-Bossier Convention & Tourist Bureau
Sitka Tribe of Alaska
Ski Utah
Skyline Sightseeing
Sojern
South Carolina PRT
South Coast Plaza
South Dakota Department of Tourism
Southeast Tourism Society
Springfield Convention & Visitors Bureau
St. Tammany Parish Tourist and Convention
Commission
Starline Tours of Hollywood Inc.
State of Washington Tourism
STR
SUN ISLANDS HAWAII, INC.
Sunny Isles Beach Tourism & Marketing Council
Texas Travel Alliance
Tauck
TBO LLC
The Guest House at Graceland
The Happy Valley Adventure Bureau
Tour America LLC
Tourism Economics
TourMappers North America, LLC
Travalco USA
TravDek
Travel Butler County

Travel Marquette
Travel Portland
Travel Oregon
Travel Santa Ana
Travel South USA
Tropicana Las Vegas - a DoubleTree by Hilton
TSA Tours, Inc
U.S. Cultural & Heritage Marketing Council
Ventura County Lodging Association
Virginia Tourism Corporation
Visit Anaheim
Visit Aurora, CO
Visit Baltimore
Visit Cedar City Brian Head
Visit Colorado Springs
Visit Dallas
Visit Denver
Visit Eau Claire
Visit Fairfax
Visit Fort Worth
Visit Greater Palm Springs
Visit Harford, Inc
Visit Henderson, NV
Visit Huntington Beach
Visit Lake Charles
Visit Lake County
Visit Lenawee
VISIT Milwaukee
Visit Muskogee
Visit Oakland
Visit Orlando
Visit Pensacola
Visit Phoenix
Visit Saint Paul
Visit San Antonio
Visit Sandy Springs
Visit Santa Barbara
Visit Savannah
Visit St. Pete/Clearwater
Visit Stockton
Visit Tampa Bay
Visit Tri-Valley
Visit Vacaville
Visit Vancouver WA
Visit Williamsburg
VisitLEX

U.S. TRAVEL ASSOCIATION®

Warren County (Ohio) CVB
Wausau/Central Wisconsin Convention & Visitors
Bureau
West Hollywood Travel and Tourism Board
West Virginia Department of Tourism
White Mountains Attractions Association
www.getyourguide.com
Yosemite Mariposa County Tourism Bureau
Young Strategies, Inc
Zartico, Inc
Zimple Rentals Inc