Dear Dr. Jha,

We encourage the Administration to expedite the removal of 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 vaccine formulations, boosters and prior infection has led to fewer serious outcomes for vaccinated individuals. This progress, combined with effective treatments to prevent the worst outcomes of COVID-19, has 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 vaccine requirement, have also made it 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 points 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,

[Signature]

[Company Name]