December 23, 2020

Open Letter to the Nation’s Governors:

As we celebrate the great milestone of approved vaccines to protect the country from the COVID-19 pandemic, we are joining forces again to respectfully request that our hard-working associates at your local Albertsons Companies stores, including Safeway, ACME Markets, Jewel-Osco, Vons, Pavilions and Albertsons supermarkets, among others – who are proud members of the United Food & Commercial Workers (UFCW) union – be prioritized for the COVID-19 vaccine in your state’s Phase 1b plan.

From the onset of this crisis, Albertsons Companies and the UFCW have collaborated to ensure supermarket associates get the protections they need.  Now we are asking for your commitment to ensure access to the COVID-19 vaccinations for these critical infrastructure essential employees.  We applaud the CDC’s Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) as well as the [CDC’s COVID-19 Vaccination Program Interim Playbook](https://clicktime.symantec.com/3U7cQk3yoy9HVEnnrnmrHqu7Vc?u=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fvaccines%2Fimz-managers%2Fdownloads%2FCOVID-19-Vaccination-Program-Interim_Playbook.pdf) and the National Academies of Sciences’ [final framework for COVID-19 vaccines allocation](https://clicktime.symantec.com/3DzcXmaP1t6U5RxFyF3S4W17Vc?u=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.nap.edu%2Fcatalog%2F25917%2Fframework-for-equitable-allocation-of-covid-19-vaccine%23resources), which prioritizes food industry essential workers for COVID-19 vaccinations after the initial phase that focuses on health care workers first and foremost.   We urge you to adopt this recommendation in your state.

Albertsons Companies not only has a large workforce 300,000 strong in 2,300 locations nationwide, but we are also proud partners of the vaccination effort through our 1,732 pharmacies.  With your designation of prioritizing our front-line workers in Phase 1b and selecting our pharmacies as a vaccine provider, we can swiftly vaccinate a large population in your state and make great strides in advancing the country past this pandemic.

Albertsons Companies and the UFCW are committed to promoting the vaccine acceptance for both our team and customers. We thank you for your leadership throughout this pandemic and look forward to partnering with you to protect our grocery associates and the communities they serve.

