



State of Connecticut  
SENATE

STATE CAPITOL  
300 CAPITOL AVENUE  
HARTFORD, CT 06106-1591  
SENATE REPUBLICAN OFFICES

January 12, 2021

Governor Ned Lamont  
Office of the Governor  
210 Capitol Avenue  
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Governor Lamont:

We write regarding your impending decision to set vaccination priorities for additional populations of Connecticut residents. We applaud the Vaccination Allocation Subcommittee's forthcoming proposal of today to follow CDC recommendations and include the 65 and older population and those with comorbidities in the 1b vaccination staging. Nonetheless, we remain concerned that as the large 1b population is vaccinated that those with the greatest risk of death get the priority they deserve.

As you know, more than 90% of our more than 6400 deaths in the state are from the 60 and older population with a majority of deaths occurring in the 70+ population. Those most susceptible to death ought to be prioritized in your vaccination plan. Science is clear that vaccination can prevent death from COVID, but science is not clear that vaccination can prevent spread. Thus, you must prioritize vaccinating the portion of our population that can save lives.

The subcommittee is proposing to include prisoners in the 1b population. This is not in accordance with CDC recommendations. To the extent that prisoners meet the criteria above, they ought to be vaccinated accordingly. But to the extent that they are not 65 and older or those with comorbidities then they ought to wait until the older and at risk are vaccinated. Though we do not object to congregate settings being included in 1b, how you prioritize within 1b is of serious concern to us with serious potential consequences.

We ask that you give due consideration to the points we raise above.

Sincerely,

Kevin Kelly  
Senate Republican Leader

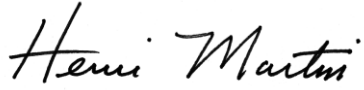
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cc: Paul Mounds, Chief of Staff