

KANAWHA COUNTY COMMISSION

Post Office Box 3627
Charleston, West Virginia 25336



Telephone (304) 357-0101
Fax (304) 357-0788
www.kanawha.us

Ben Salango
Commissioner

W. Kent Carper
Commissioner

Lance Wheeler
Commissioner

June 13, 2022

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito
United States Senator
500 Virginia Street, East
Charleston, WV 25301

Dear Senator Capito:

We seek your assistance in getting approval from the CDC to allow for second COVID boosters for First Responders, Doctors, Nurses, Health Care Workers, Essential Workers, and Care Givers. Currently, CDC guidelines only allow for second boosters for those over the age of 50 or those over 12 years old with underlying conditions that make them more susceptible to the virus.

The Kanawha County Unified Health Command, from day 1, made it a priority to Vaccinate its First Responders, Doctors, Nurses, Healthcare Workers, Essential Workers, and Care Givers as these were the ones on the front lines and were more likely to be at risk for getting COVID-19. It has been since August of 2021 since the 1st booster was authorized for many. This means that many people have not received a booster for more than six months. The efficacy of the 1st booster has waned.

In order to protect our most vulnerable population, we must also protect those who respond to their calls and take care of them daily. We are seeking your assistance in obtaining approval from the CDC to allow for the expansion of 2nd boosters. We must continue to do all we can to stop the spread of COVID-19 as we are still seeing a rise in cases.

We are approaching Holiday's and gatherings throughout the summer months and then will be approaching the fall, which is predicted to be another period where there will be a spike in cases. Breakthrough cases are already occurring daily with those who have not had the 2nd booster. We must act quickly to continue to stop the spread but also lessen the severity of illness of those affected by COVID.

Thank you for considering this request.

Sincerely,

W. Kent Carper
President

Ben Salango
Commissioner

Lance Wheeler
Commissioner

Cc: Dr. Steven Eshenaur, Chief Health Officer and Executive Director of KCHD



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The Honorable Joe Manchin, III
United States Senator
900 Pennsylvania Avenue
Suite 629
Charleston, WV 25302

Dear Senator Manchin:

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Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of W. Kent Carper in black ink.

W. Kent Carper
President

Handwritten signature of Ben Salango in black ink.

Ben Salango
Commissioner

Handwritten signature of Lance Wheeler in blue ink.

Lance Wheeler
Commissioner

Cc: Dr. Steven Eshenaur, Chief Health Officer and Executive Director of KCHD

