



## HB22-1200 Employee Exemption COVID-19 Vaccine Requirement

Thursday, March 3rd, 2022

House Business Affairs & Labor

1:30 pm | Old State Library

Mr. Chair and fellow members of the Colorado House Business Affairs & Labor committee.

My name is Adam Burg and I am the vice president of government affairs for the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce and currently serve as the interim executive director of the Colorado Competitive Council (C3)

I am testifying today to express both the Chamber and C3's opposition to HB22-1200.

We firmly believe that businesses have the right to decide the best way to protect their employees. An employer's requirements may depend on the nature of the worksite and the likelihood of COVID-19 exposure. Ultimately, employers are responsible for the safety of their workers on the job and mandating a one-size-fits-all approach on this issue takes away the ability for businesses to decide what is best for themselves and the health and safety of their employees.

In addition to interfering with businesses' ability to maintain a healthy work environment for their employees and patrons, the provision that makes former employees eligible for unemployment benefits upon termination is also concerning.

This is a significant departure from existing law and creates additional costs for employers who are already paying to restore the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund to solvency- something that remains a key issue for the Chamber.

We urge the members of the committee to vote no on HB22-1200.