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CHAMBER STATEMENT ON BIDEN'S COVID-19 ACTION PLAN

San Diego, CA (September 9, 2021) – The San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce released the following statement from President and CEO Jerry Sanders regarding The White House announcement of <u>President Biden's COVID-19 Action Plan</u>.

President Biden's plan includes implementing a 6-pillar national strategy which will require that employers with over 100 employees ensure their workers are vaccinated or tested weekly. The plan would also require these employers to provide paid time off to employees getting vaccinated.

"The Chamber has encouraged people to get vaccinated since it was made available. It is the best way to ensure businesses can safely stay open. We also know that this free, safe, medical development is the best way to continue our economic recovery and keep people healthy.

"While we are optimistic that today's orders will motivate more people to get vaccines, we are anxious to see the specific guidance for some of the components. More specifically, the emergency temporary standard (ETS), will be the critical piece to the success of any requirement.

"The chamber will continue working with local, state, and federal officials to ensure we have tools and legislation which may be needed to address unanticipated liabilities. Additionally, we are hopeful that any costs borne by businesses in implementation will be met with federal resources."

About the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce: The San Diego Regional Chamber is the hub for connections and collaboration among the regional business community and uses that clout to advocate for public policies and candidates that support economic growth and the creation of jobs for all businesses. As the largest local Chamber on the West Coast, representing approximately 2,500 businesses and an estimated 300,000 jobs, the San Diego Regional Chamber is working to make the San Diego region the best place to live and work. For more information, please visit SDChamber.org or call 619-544-1300.

Earlier this year, the Chamber launched the Time To Vaccinate campaign to help support robust vaccination efforts in the San Diego workforce. The program offers helpful educational tools on what to expect after vaccination and legal considerations. Companies may visit sdchamber.org/timetovaccinate to learn how they can support and encourage employees to get vaccinated.