



AMERICAN CITIZENS ABROAD
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Washington, DC

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American Citizens Abroad (ACA) writes to Congress and the US State Department reiterating need for vaccination of all Americans.

ACA a non-profit, non-partisan exempt organization representing the millions of Americans that live and work overseas has [followed up with a letter to Congressional leadership and the US State Department](#) asking them again to provide clarification on how American taxpayers living and working overseas can avail themselves of the SARS-CoV-2 vaccine. As was stated in ACA's letter of April 12th and again on May 18th, since Americans resident overseas are subject to the same US taxation requirements as US stateside residents, these individuals should have access to the same healthcare opportunities, including free and expedited access to vaccines developed against the novel SARS-CoV-2 Coronavirus.

ACA has asked for clarification from the US Government and US State Department on opportunities that Americans may have for vaccinations at US Embassies and Consulates in their countries of residence in light of the Biden Administration's promise to vaccinate all Americans and most recently the Administration's decision to make available 80 million doses of surplus vaccinations to foreign countries by the end of June.

"The U.S. State Department last month reported that it had already shipped doses to embassies and consulates in 220 locations worldwide to vaccinate its own diplomats and other employees, and the same access should be made available to US taxpayer residents," said Jonathan Lachowitz, ACA Chairman.

ACA's letter suggests that vaccinations could be provided through US Embassies and Consulates and, although recent comments by President Biden's press secretary Jen Psaki said the US government had not "historically provided private health care for Americans living overseas, so that remains our policy," representatives from the US State Department have contacted ACA and indicated that they are looking into the issue.

"The issue has picked up media attention and it once again highlights the inherent problems associated with a system of taxing US citizens on their income earned overseas even when they are already paying taxes in the foreign jurisdiction in which they live and work," said Marylouise Serrato, ACA Executive Director. ACA's website highlights numerous areas where US tax policy and government programs are not designed to meet the needs of Americans who live and work overseas; from the inability to create IRS online accounts, the loss of US Social Security Benefits due to the Windfall Elimination Provision, the inability to easily access taxpayer funded government agencies and programs, the list is long. "One simple way forward is to join the rest of the world and adopt Residence-based taxation (RBT). RBT would tax Americans overseas on the income they earn in the United States but would not tax them on the income they earn overseas in the country of their primary residence where it is already taxed," said



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Serrato. “RBT can be done without costing the government revenue, without creating loop-holes for tax evasion and without making anyone else worse off,” she added.

Contact: marylouise.serrato@americansabroad.org

+1 202 322 8441