

October 6, 2022

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President,

In light of your recent comment that “the pandemic is over,” and in response to actions already taken north of the border, we urge you to remove all restrictions on travelers entering the United States.

As you know, the Government of Canada ended all COVID-related travel restrictions on October 1. At this point, travelers into Canada no longer need to provide proof of vaccination, undergo pre- or on-arrival testing, or quarantine if they are suspected of having come in contact with the COVID-19 virus.

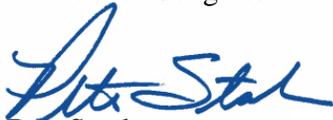
Our government should follow suit. Continued enforcement of unnecessary border restrictions is not only an egregious nuisance for travelers entering into the United States; it will also take a severe economic toll. The nation’s supply chain is already overtaxed, which is contributing to the painfully high inflation that has been battering all of us. Any delay in moving the \$1.4 billion worth of goods that cross the northern border each day will only exacerbate our current economic challenges.

For the northern communities we represent, the costs of border restrictions are also deeply personal. Canadians are our neighbors; they purchase from local businesses and visit family in Minnesota. We fail to see why our friends on the other side of the northern border should be treated differently than we are.

The United States is the only country in North America to still have COVID-19 travel restrictions in place, and we have yet to see any plan to ease them. This is inexcusable: As we move on from the pandemic, it is long past time for the United States to join our partners to the north in fully opening the border.

Sincerely,


Michelle Fischbach
Member of Congress


Pete Stauber
Member of Congress


Tom Emmer
Member of Congress


Brad Finstad
Member of Congress

