

# NEWS BRIEF

Provided by: National Insurance Services

## Texas Issues Ban on COVID-19 Vaccine Mandates

On Monday, Oct. 11, 2021, Gov. Greg Abbott of Texas released a [sweeping executive order](#) that broadly banned vaccine mandates in the state.

The order restricts any “entity,” including private employers, from mandating vaccines for anyone who objects to them for “any reason of personal conscience.”

This move echoes previous orders from Abbott, who recently prohibited local authorities from requiring masks and banned vaccine mandates among state agencies.

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*“The COVID-19 vaccine is safe, effective, and our best defense against the virus, but should remain voluntary and never forced.”*

- Gov. Greg Abbott, in a statement

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The Texas State Legislature will be holding a special session to discuss vaccine mandates, according to Abbott.

### What’s Next?

Like Abbott’s previous mask and vaccine mandate bans, this latest measure is expected to face challenges in court.

However, it’s unclear how Texas businesses will respond in the meantime. Facebook, which has a

large Texas campus, said it will be reviewing the executive order, but its current vaccination policy remains in effect.

Additionally, it’s unclear exactly how the Texas order will conflict with upcoming federal vaccine mandates, which will apply to all U.S. employers with 100 or more employees.

Employers should stay tuned for more details on this developing situation and reach out for guidance on vaccine mandates in the office.

