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**For Immediate Release**

November 2, 2021

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**BOARD RATIFIES LAWSUIT DECISION; GIVES  
INSTITUTIONS APPROVAL TO COMPLY WITH FEDERAL  
VACCINE MANDATE**

The Idaho State Board of Education today unanimously ratified a decision made late last week to join a lawsuit filed by the State of Georgia challenging President Joe Biden’s executive order mandating COVID-19 vaccinations for federal contractors, including Idaho’s 4-year institutions of higher education.

The Board also gave formal approval allowing the institutions to take actions to comply with the President’s order to protect \$89 million in federal research contracts that could be at risk otherwise.

The Board’s executive director and executive officers consulted with the Governor’s office late last week before joining the Georgia lawsuit.

The Board was unable to meet before the deadline to join the lawsuit set by the State of Georgia, which was noon last Friday.

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