

August 16, 2023

Mr. Jeff Zients
Chief of Staff
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

RE: Federal Worker Return-to-Office Initiative

Dear Mr. Zients:

On behalf of the Cleaning Coalition of America (“CCA”), I am writing to express strong support for the Biden-Harris Administration’s publicly reported efforts to bring federal workers back to the office this Fall.

The CCA represents the nation’s largest facility cleaning companies, employing more than one million people across the country. In addition to providing jobs, member companies serve an essential function in communities across the country by keeping businesses, schools, places of worship, public buildings and other organizations in operation.

We have seen the damage caused when companies and other organizations utilize a full-time remote work force. We are not suggesting that all employees will need to be in the office five days a week. We do know, however, that having remote employees return to the office will provide several key benefits.

Back-to-the-Office Initiatives Benefit Local Economies

For municipalities, whose budgets are tied most closely to sales tax and related revenue, remote work has had a crushing financial impact. In New York, for example, remote work is costing the city \$12.4 billion, according to an analysis by Bloomberg News. The loss of spending on meals, shopping and entertainment has forced mayors and elected officials across the country to fill growing shortfalls. A return-to-office policy for federal workers will improve the local Washington, DC economy, benefit areas around the country with large numbers of federal workers, and set an example for other institutions as they consider their return to office policies.

In-Person Work Provides Career-Enhancing Benefits

Recent studies by economists at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, the University of Iowa and Harvard University provided data for what many people know intuitively: in-person work provides important mentoring and feedback that is simply not available through all-remote work.

Commercially-Cleaned Offices Promote a Safe and Healthy Workforce

Despite the best of intentions, remote employees who work from public spaces, or even their own residences, often do not have access to the skills and resources of a professionally-trained commercial cleaning service. CCA member companies and their employees provide best-in-class cleaning services, keeping employees safe and productive.

We recognize that the Administration’s return-to-the-office initiative will require the cooperation of many organizations throughout the country. We stand with you and would be proud to take further action in support of this effort.

Sincerely,



Josh Feinberg
President, Cleaning Coalition of America

