

JASON E. MUMPOWER

Comptroller

December 1, 2021

MEMORANDUM

TO: Public Chapter 6 Exemption Recipients

FROM: Jason E. Mumpower, Comptroller of the Treasure

SUBJECT: Public Chapter 6 Exemptions Suspended

The Tennessee Comptroller of the Treasury has suspended all exemptions issued under the provisions of Public Chapter 6 of the 2021 Third Extraordinary Session after federal court judges in Kentucky and Louisiana issued preliminary injunctions on Tuesday, November 30.

Yesterday, a U.S. District Judge from the Eastern District of Kentucky issued a preliminary injunction and enjoined the federal government from enforcing the COVID-19 vaccine mandate for federal contractors and subcontractors in Kentucky, Ohio, and Tennessee. Accordingly, the Comptroller's Office can no longer find that compliance with Public Chapter 6 would result in a loss of federal funding.

Similarly, a U.S. District Judge from the Western District of Louisiana issued a nationwide preliminary injunction on Tuesday enjoining and restraining the federal government from implementing a Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services mandate requiring staff of certain healthcare providers to receive a COVID-19 vaccination. The Comptroller's Office has granted exemptions to Medicare & Medicaid providers who may be covered under Public Chapter 6, and these exemptions are also suspended.

The Comptroller's Office has issued 69 exemptions since Public Chapter 6 went into effect on November 12. It is important to note that these exemptions may be reinstated if the injunctions are lifted, and it is legally permissible.

If you have additional questions, or if you believe the basis for your exemption is outside the scope of these court actions, please contact the Tennessee Comptroller's Exemption Review Team at exempt@cot.tn.gov, or by phone at 615.253.3900.