

## President Biden Signs Executive Order to Protect Travel Industry During COVID-19

President Biden signed an [Executive Order](#) promoting safety for domestic and international travel during this COVID-19 pandemic.

There are a number of sections in the document that affect the motorcoach, group travel and tourism industry:

**Sec. 2** directs various Agency heads to take action, with relevant authority and to the extent appropriate and consistent with applicable law, to require masks to be worn in or on intercity bus services (and other transportation modes), in compliance with CDC guidelines. Agency heads are to update the President's COVID-19 Response Coordinator on their progress in implementing this section, along with any categorical exceptions, within 7 days of the date of the order (January 21, 2021).

**Sec. 3** directs Agency heads to make additional recommendations on how their respective agencies may impose additional public health measures for domestic travel.

**Sec. 4** directs DOT and other agencies to support state/local/tribal and territorial authorities by informing them of options to incentivize, support and encourage widespread mask wearing and physical distancing on public modes of transportation.

**Sec. 5** for international travel, among other things, directs the State Department, in consultation with DOT and others, to commence diplomatic outreach to Mexico and Canada regarding public health protocols for land ports of entry, and within 14 days of the date of the order, the various Agency heads are to submit a plan to the President on how to implement appropriate public health measures at land ports of entry.

While we generally support the use of face masks for those riding our buses, we do not support this if it will cause harm or danger by forcing drivers to wear masks if it would cause them breathing problems or fogging glasses.