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## **State Representative Daisy Morales Applauds President Biden's Use of Barbershops as COVID-19 Vaccination Sites**

**ORLANDO, Fla.** – State **Representative Daisy Morales (D- Orlando)** applauds **President Joe Biden**'s decision to add barbershops and beauty salons as vaccination sites to get more Americans vaccinated against COVID-19. **President Biden** announced his "Shots at the Shop" initiative Tuesday afternoon.

## President Biden shared in his speech:

"In the spirit of meeting people where they are, we'll also be working with the Black Coalition Against COVID and other organizations to launch a new initiative called 'Shots at the Shop.' Barbershops, beauty shops are hubs of activity and information in Black and brown communities in particular, but in many communities across the nation.

"Local barbers, stylists, they become key advocates for vaccinations in their communities, offering information to customers, booking appointments for them, even using their own businesses as vaccination sites. We're going to work with shops across the country to make an even bigger impact over the next month."

**Representative Morales**, who sponsored the Barber Services bill (**HB 855**), which passed the Legislature and will next go to the Governor's desk for signature, fully supports the initiative. **HB 855** helps barbers get back into the workforce by allowing mobile services. "President Biden is right—barbershops and beauty salons are indeed high-traffic locations, especially in Black and brown communities."

**Representative Morales** looks forward to Governor DeSantis signing HB 855, given his high regard for the importance of barbershops, and hopes he will embrace this kind of vaccination plan for Florida.

"More importantly, these shops also serve as a valuable communication hub in the community, so it's a great way to help curb vaccine hesitancy," **Representative Morales** added. "When people in the community get the vaccine at the barbershop or beauty salon, they'll encourage others to get it as well. We want to help Americans, especially Floridians, get back to some sense of normalcy."