

Pfizer Gave \$49,500 To The Sedition Caucus After Pausing Contributions, Has Supported Georgia's Anti-Democratic Governor, And Has A Top Trump Official In Its Board

SUMMARY: Pfizer has given \$49,500 to the Sedition Caucus despite suspending contributions to election objectors following the insurrection on January 6, 2021. Yet, Pfizer took back a March 2021 contribution to Sedition Caucus member Rep. Adrian Smith (R-PA), when the company [faced controversy](#) over breaking its pledge to pause contributions—which it claimed was done "[in error](#)."

Pfizer's support for lawmakers who sought to overturn the 2020 election is further complicated by its mixed record of maintaining ties to anti-democratic forces and Trump allies in some instances, and maintaining pro-democratic ties and postures elsewhere:

- Pfizer [backtracked](#) on joining a statement "[blasting](#)" Georgia's 2021 voting restrictions even as its CEO claimed "[access to vote is very important for the democracy](#)"—meanwhile, Pfizer has given [\\$6,850](#) to Georgia Gov. Brian Kemp, who [signed](#) the "[Jim Crow 2.0](#)" bill into law.
- Pfizer's [board](#) includes former top-level Trump appointee [Dr. Scott Gottlieb](#), whose tenure leading the Food and Drug Administration was rife with controversy over his "[myriad conflicts of interest](#)" with industry interests and who is [tied](#) to the conservative movement.
- Pfizer is represented on the [Executive Committee](#) of the National Association of Manufacturers, which [strongly condemned](#) the insurrection and called for [President Trump's removal](#) via the 25th amendment.
- Pfizer was an [early signatory](#) of the United Nations' Global Compact, which guides companies on respecting [the rule of law](#)—and even highlights a case example of a company helping to prevent "[violence](#)" and "[promote stability during elections](#)."

Pfizer Gave \$49,500 To Seditionists Who Would Not Certify President Biden's Election Despite Condemning The Capitol Insurrection, Pausing Contributions, And Returning A March 2021 Donation To A Sedition Caucus Member.

Pfizer Has Donated \$49,500 To Seditionists Who Refused To Certify President Biden's Election So Far In 2021.

Pfizer Donated \$49,500 To Seditionists Who Refused To Certify President Biden's Election.

[Accountable.US, Corporate Donations Tracker, accessed [12/22/21](#)]

Company	Member	Contribution	Dates
Pfizer Inc. PAC	Rep. Richard Hudson (NC-08)	\$2,500	8/23/21
Pfizer Inc. PAC	Rep. Michael Burgess (TX-26)	\$2,500	9/16/21
Pfizer Inc. PAC	Rep. Adrian Smith (NE-03)	\$2,500	3/17/21; 4/13/21; 9/16/21

Pfizer Inc. PAC	Rep. Steve Scalise (LA-01)	\$2,500	11/18/21
Pfizer Inc. PAC	Rep. Devin Nunes (CA-22)	\$5,000	9/16/21;11/18/21
Pfizer Inc. PAC	Rep. Tom Rice (SC-07)	\$2,500	9/16/21
Pfizer Inc. PAC	Sen. John Kennedy (R-LA)	\$2,500	11/18/21
Pfizer Inc. PAC	Rep. Kevin Hern (OK-01)	\$2,500	9/16/21
Pfizer Inc. PAC	Sen. Tommy Tuberville (R-AL)	\$2,500	11/18/21
Pfizer Inc. PAC	Rep. Jodey Arrington (TX-19)	\$1,000	9/16/21
Pfizer Inc. PAC	Mike Kelly (PA-16) - \$2,500	\$2,500	10/21/21
Pfizer Inc. PAC	Elise Stefanik (NY-21)	\$2,500	10/21/21
Pfizer Inc. PAC	Lloyd Smucker (PA-11)	\$2,500	10/21/21
Pfizer Inc. PAC	Greg Pence (IN-6)	\$2,500	10/21/21
Pfizer Inc. PAC	Markwayne Mullin (OK-02)	\$1,500	10/21/21
Pfizer Inc. PAC	Rep. Nicole Malliotakis (NY-11)	\$1,500	11/18/21
Pfizer Inc. PAC	Rep. Jacob LaTurner (KS-02)	\$1,500	11/18/21
Pfizer Inc. PAC	Rep. Tracey Mann (KS-1)	\$1,500	11/18/21
Pfizer Inc. PAC	Rep. Jackie Walorski (IN-02)	\$1,500	11/18/21
Pfizer Inc. PAC	Rep. Ron Estes (KS-04)	\$1,500	11/18/21
Pfizer Inc. PAC	Rep. Ken Calvert (CA-42)	\$1,000	11/18/21
Pfizer Inc. PAC	Rep. Mike Garcia (CA-25)	\$1,000	11/18/21
Pfizer Inc. PAC	Morgan Griffith (VA-9)	\$1,000	10/21/21
Pfizer Inc. PAC	Jason Smith (MO-8)	\$1,000	10/21/21
Pfizer Inc. PAC	Ben Cline (VA-6)	\$500	10/21/21
TOTAL: \$49,500			

[Accountable.US, Corporate Donations Tracker, accessed [12/22/21](#)]

Pfizer Suspended Donations To Republican Lawmakers Who Did Not Certify President Biden's Election.

HEADLINE: Walgreens And Pfizer Become The Latest Corporations To Suspend Political Donations To Republican Lawmakers Who Objected To Biden's Presidential Win. [Business Insider, [1/16/21](#)]

Pfizer Suspended Donations To Republican Lawmakers Who Did Not Certify President Biden's Election. "After the violent pro-Trump riot on Capitol Hill last week, some businesses began cutting ties with President Donald Trump, while some corporations decided to suspend political donations to one or both political parties. Walgreens and Pfizer are two of the most recent companies to suspend PAC contributions to the 147 Republican lawmakers who opposed the certification of Democrat Joe Biden as the next president." [Business Insider, [1/16/21](#)]

In March 2021, Pfizer Gave \$2,500 To Sedition Caucus Member Adrian Smith (R-PA) And, After The Donation Was Revealed, The Company Cancelled The Contribution, Claiming It Was An Error.

March 17, 2021: Pfizer Gave \$2,500 To Rep. Adrian Smith, Who Voted Against Certifying President Biden's Election But Then Cancelled The Contribution After It Was Revealed, Claiming It Was "Made In Error." "Following the Jan. 6 attempted insurrection at the U.S. Capitol, Pfizer pledged not to make any campaign contributions to the 147 Republican members of Congress who voted not to certify the results of the November presidential election. That was until the pharmaceutical giant gave Rep. Adrian Smith (R-NE) \$2,500 on March 17, according to Federal Election Commission filings released Thursday. Smith made just such a vote. The company issued a mea culpa and canceled its donation. The company said in an internal email, obtained by the Popular Information newsletter, 'We continue to stand by our decision to pause Pfizer PAC contributions to all 147 Members of Congress who voted against certifying the Electoral College results. The donation to Rep. Adrian Smith was made in error and has been cancelled.'" [Daily Beast, [4/15/21](#)]

- **HEADLINE: Pfizer Says Donation to Nebraska Rep. Who Voted to Overturn Election Was 'Made in Error'** [Daily Beast, [4/15/21](#)]
- **September 16, 2021: Pfizer Gave \$2,500 To Rep. Adrian Smith (R-PA), A Member Of The Sedition Caucus.** [Accountable.US, Corporate Donations Tracker, accessed [11/15/21](#)]

Pfizer Is A Leading Member Of The National Association Of Manufacturers, Which Strongly Condemned The Insurrection And Called For Trump's Removal.

Pfizer Is A Leading Member Of The National Association of Manufacturers, Which Strongly Condemned The Insurrection And Called For Trump's Removal From Office Via The 25th Amendment.

Pfizer Is A Leading Member Of The National Association of Manufacturers (NAM), Which Strongly Condemned The Capitol Insurrection And Called On Vice President Mike Pence To Invoke The 25th Amendment And Remove Trump From Office. "Pharma executives and trade groups joined the chorus of voices condemning the pro-Trump insurrection on Capitol Hill yesterday. Speaking up on social media and issuing statements against the mob chaos—as Congress worked to certify President-elect Joseph Biden's election—industry reps went so far as to support a call to consider removing President Donald Trump from office. The National Association of Manufacturers (NAM)—which counts reps from Pfizer, Merck & Co., Johnson & Johnson, Eli Lilly and Mallinckrodt among its executive committee members—called for consideration of the 25th Amendment to remove Trump from office. It condemned the attacks as sedition and placed the blame squarely at his feet." [Force Pharma, [1/7/21](#)]

- **After The Insurrection, The President And CEO Of NAM Strongly Called For Vice President Pence To Invoke The 25th Amendment.** "National Association of Manufacturers President and CEO Jay Timmons released the following statement in response to large groups of armed Trump adherents who have violently stormed the U.S. Capitol building as members of Congress meet to count the electoral votes: 'Armed violent protestors who support the baseless claim by outgoing president Trump that he somehow won an election that he overwhelmingly lost have stormed the U.S. Capitol today, attacking police officers and first responders, because Trump refused to accept defeat in a free and fair election. Throughout this whole disgusting episode, Trump has been cheered on by members of his own party, adding fuel to the distrust that has enflamed violent anger. This is not law and order. This is chaos. It is mob rule. It is dangerous. This is sedition and should be treated as such. The outgoing president incited violence in an attempt to retain power, and any elected leader defending him is violating their oath to the Constitution and rejecting democracy in favor of anarchy. Anyone indulging

conspiracy theories to raise campaign dollars is complicit. Vice President Pence, who was evacuated from the Capitol, should seriously consider working with the Cabinet to invoke the 25th Amendment to preserve democracy.” [National Association Of Manufacturers, [1/6/21](#)]

- **Pfizer's President Of Global Supply Mike McDermott Was On NAM's Executive Committee, As Of November 19, 2021.** [National Association of Manufacturers, accessed [11/19/21](#)]

Pfizer Backtracked On Joining A Statement "Blasting" Georgia's 2021 Voting Restrictions Even As Its CEO Claimed "Access To Vote Is Very Important For The Democracy"—Meanwhile Pfizer Has Given \$6,850 To Georgia Gov. Brian Kemp, Who Signed The "Jim Crow 2.0" Bill Into Law.

Pfizer Signed On To A Letter "Blasting" Georgia's Restrictive Voting Laws In 2021, But Later Backtracked When Its CEO Said "We Are Not Taking A Position On Specifics, On Specific Laws" Even As He Claimed "Access To Vote Is Very Important For The Democracy."

Pfizer Signed On To A Letter "Blasting" Georgia's Restrictive Voting Law, Which Was Criticized As Part Of "A Concerted Effort To Suppress Minority Voters." “A growing number of companies and top executives are blasting a new election law in Georgia that some critics have assailed as a concerted effort to suppress minority voters. The legislation, signed into law last week by Gov. Brian Kemp (R), limits the use of drop-off ballot boxes, introduces new voter identification requirements and prevents voters waiting in line from being given food or water. [...] The following companies have at least one top executive who has publicly opposed the Georgia law. Pfizer.” [The Hill, [4/2/21](#)]

Just Weeks Later, Pfizer Backtracked And Its CEO Albert Bourla Stated The Company Would Remain Neutral On The Georgia Voter Restriction Law. “Pfizer CEO Albert Bourla claimed today that Pfizer is staying neutral regarding Georgia's new election integrity law. This assertion, made in response to a question from the National Center for Public Policy Research's Free Enterprise Project (FEP), contradicted earlier reports that the company opposed the law.” [National Center for Public Policy, [4/22/21](#)]

Pfizer Bourla Said, "We Are Not Taking A Position On Specifics, On Specific Laws" As He Claimed "Access To Vote Is Very Important For The Democracy." “At Pfizer's annual virtual shareholder meeting, FEP Associate Davis Soderberg submitted this question: Pfizer has joined the rush to condemn Georgia's voter-integrity law, a law designed to stop election fraud, as by requiring voters to provide ID. Could you explain in detail how requiring voters to show ID when they vote undermines any voting access or voting rights, and which other specific provisions of the bill you object to and why? [...] Bourla responded, in part: [...] We are not taking a position on specifics, on specific laws, but we are clearly stating our basic principle that access to vote is very important for the democracy and it's very important for us as a company that operates in the health care sector.” [National Center for Public Policy, [4/22/21](#)]

Pfizer Has Given \$6,850 To Georgia Governor Brian Kemp, Who In March 2021 Signed Into Law The "Restrictive New Voting Law" That Was Called "Jim Crow 2.0" Because Its "Legal Maneuvering And Political Schemes" Limits Ballot Access.

Pfizer Has Given \$6,850 To Georgia Governor Brian Kemp. [FollowTheMoney.org, accessed [11/19/21](#)]

March 25, 2021: Georgia Enacted Senate Bill 202, A "Restrictive New Voting Law" That Required ID For Mail-In Ballots, Shrank Early And Absentee Voting Windows, Limited The Amount Of Ballot Drop Boxes, Banned Giving Food And Water To Voters Waiting In Line At Polling Places, And Shifted Some

Local Election Rule Oversight To The Legislature. “Corporate America has, once again, found itself in the crosshairs of politics with the passage of Georgia’s restrictive new voting law, which was signed by Gov. Brian Kemp last week. The bill, known as SB 202, will increase voting restrictions for Georgians by requiring identification for mail-in ballots, shrinking the window for early and absentee voting, limiting the number of ballot drop boxes, banning the provision of food and water to voters waiting in line, and shifting control over local election rules to the state legislature, among other changes.” [Vox, [04/05/21](#)]

- **March 25, 2021: SB 202 Was Signed Into Law And Was Made Effective Immediately.** [Georgia General Assembly, accessed [04/07/21](#)]

Georgia Governor Brian Kemp Signed SB 202 Into Law. “Corporate America has, once again, found itself in the crosshairs of politics with the passage of Georgia’s restrictive new voting law, which was signed by Gov. Brian Kemp last week. The bill, known as SB 202, will increase voting restrictions for Georgians by requiring identification for mail-in ballots, shrinking the window for early and absentee voting, limiting the number of ballot drop boxes, banning the provision of food and water to voters waiting in line, and shifting control over local election rules to the state legislature, among other changes.” [Vox, [04/05/21](#)]

Voting Rights Advocates Have Dubbed SB 202 “Jim Crow 2.0” Because It Blocks Ballot Access Via “Legal Maneuvering And Political Schemes” In The Same Way The Original Jim Crow Laws Did. “The long struggle to block access to the ballot has always relied on legal maneuvering and political schemes to achieve what bullets and bombs alone could not. What legislators in Georgia and across the country have reminded us is that backlash to expanded voting rights has often arrived by a method that our eras have in common: by laws, like Georgia’s Senate Bill 202, passed by elected politicians. Opponents of the new Georgia law denounce the legislation as ‘Jim Crow 2.0’ precisely because they recognize the continuities between past and present.” [The New York Times, [03/31/21](#)]

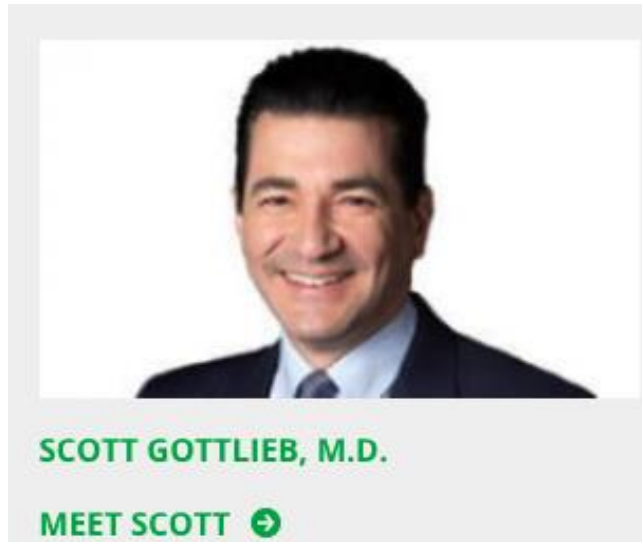
Pfizer’s Claims That Its Values And Culture Include "Equity."

Pfizer’s Claims It’s Values And Culture Include “Courage,” “Excellence,” “Equity.” And “Joy.” “To fully realize Pfizer’s purpose – Breakthroughs that change patients’ lives – we have established a clear set of expectations regarding 'what' we need to achieve for patients and 'how' we will go about achieving those goals. The 'how' is represented by four simple, powerful values – courage, excellence, equity and joy – that define our company and our culture.” [Pfizer, “Our Purpose”. Accessed [11/15/21](#)]

Pfizer’s Board Includes Former Top-Level Trump Appointee Dr. Scott Gottlieb, Whose Tenure At The FDA Was Rife With Controversy Over His "Myriad Conflicts Of Interest" With The Drug Industry He Oversaw And Who Is Tied To The Conservative Movement.

Pfizer Board Member Dr. Scott Gottlieb Was The Former Commissioner Of The Food And Drug Administration (FDA) And Is A Current Senior Fellow For The Conservative American Enterprise Institute (AEI).

Dr. Scott Gottlieb Was A Pfizer Board Member, As Of November 15, 2021. According to their Pfizer board member page, Dr. Scott Gottlieb is a member of Pfizer’s board of directors. [Pfizer, accessed [11/15/21](#)]



[Pfizer, accessed [11/15/21](#)]

Gottlieb Was The Commissioner Of The Food And Drug Administration (FDA) Under The Trump Administration. “President Donald Trump’s pick to lead the Food and Drug Administration, Scott Gottlieb, is a physician, a cancer survivor, a venture capitalist and a government insider who has long said he wants to tear down the wall of FDA regulations he believes is holding back innovation.” [CNN, [4/4/17](#)]

- **Gottlieb Served As FDA Commissioner From 2017 To 2019.** [Pfizer, accessed [11/19/21](#)]

Gottlieb Was A Senior Fellow At The American Enterprise Institute (AEI), As Of November 15, 2021. “Scott Gottlieb, MD, is a senior fellow at the American Enterprise Institute (AEI). He returned to AEI in 2019 after serving as the 23rd commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). At AEI, he continues his work on improving public health through entrepreneurship and medical innovation and on expanding regulatory approaches to maintain patient and physician autonomy. Dr. Gottlieb is also a special partner with the venture capital firm New Enterprise Associates and serves on the boards of Pfizer, Illumina, and Tempus.” [American Enterprise Institute, accessed [11/15/21](#)]

- **AEI Is A Conservative Think Tank.** “The Princeton basketball player was a key figure on welfare policy for both New York state and NYC, where he became known nationally as a vocal proponent of work requirements and ran the city’s mammoth Department of Human Resources. This month, he takes over as head of the American Enterprise Institute, the august conservative think tank on Massachusetts Avenue.” [Washington, [7/8/19](#)]

Gottlieb Was The Former Deputy Commissioner Of The FDA Under President George W. Bush. “Scott Gottlieb, President Trump’s choice for head of the Food and Drug Administration, was confirmed by the Senate on Tuesday in a 57 to 42 vote. The former deputy commissioner of the FDA under George W. Bush will come to the job with strong views about what FDA reform might look like — unlike many of Trump’s other nominees.” [Vox, [5/10/17](#)]

Gottlieb Had An “Unprecedented” Amount Of Conflicts Of Interest Tied To The Pharmaceutical Industry And Had Been Paid "Millions Of Dollars" By Industry Interests He Would Oversee At The FDA.

Experts Warned Of Gottlieb’s "Myriad Conflicts Of Interest" Due To The "Millions Of Dollars" He Had Been Paid By Industry In The Years Before Trump Nominated Him To Lead The FDA. “President Trump has repeatedly slammed pharmaceutical companies for 'getting away with murder' on soaring drug prices, but he and his nominee to head the Food and Drug Administration have pledged to ease industry regulations and speed approvals for medicines and other consumer products. The nominee, Dr. Scott Gottlieb, has spent the

bulk of his career working in the drug and health care industry, which experts say raises the potential for myriad conflicts of interest. If confirmed to head the F.D.A., he would wield considerable power over companies and investment firms that have paid him millions of dollars over the years.” [New York Times, [3/19/17](#)]

2013-2015: Gottlieb Was Paid \$413,700 In Consulting Fees From Pharmaceutical Companies That Were All "Likely To Have Regulatory Business With The FDA" During Gottlieb's Tenure. “From 2013 through 2015 — the extent of a database maintained by the Department of Health and Human Services — Gottlieb received some \$413,700 received from drug companies for consulting, speaking or other services. In 2015 alone, he collected \$199,951 from eight drug companies, including GlaxoSmithKline, Squibb, Pfizer and Valeant. All are likely to have regulatory business with the FDA in coming years.” [Los Angeles Times, [3/16/17](#)]

2005: After Taking His Position At The FDA, Gottlieb Had To Recuse Himself From Participating In Matters Involving Nine Drug Companies. “This wouldn’t be the first time that Gottlieb’s conflicts of interest raised eyebrows. Upon taking up his FDA post in 2005, he had to recuse himself for up to a year from participating in matters involving nine drug companies, including Eli Lilly, Roche, Procter & Gamble and Sanofi-Aventis.” [Los Angeles Times, [3/16/17](#)]

Public Citizen's Health Research Group's Michael Carome: "Gottlieb Is 'Entangled In An Unprecedented Web Of Big Pharma Ties.'" “Gottlieb is 'entangled in an unprecedented web of Big Pharma ties,' Michael Carome, director of the Health Research Group at the advocacy organization Public Citizen, told me.” [Los Angeles Times, [3/16/17](#)]

Pfizer Was An Early Signatory Of The United Nations' Global Compact, Which Guides Companies On Respecting The Rule Of Law—And Even Highlights A Case Example Of A Company Helping To Prevent "Violence" And "Promote Stability During Elections."

Pfizer Claims It Is "Proud" To Have Been An Early Signatory Of The United Nations Global Compact, Which Outlines A "Business For Rule Of Law Framework" On How Companies Can "Respect And Support The Rule Of Law"—The Framework Highlights A Case Example Of A Company Helping To Prevent "Violence" And "Promote Stability During Elections."

Pfizer's Human Rights Page States That The Company Is "Committed To Conducting Business In An Ethical And Responsible Manner" And Respects "Internationally Recognized Human Rights." "Pfizer is committed to conducting business in an ethical and responsible manner. This includes respecting internationally recognized human rights throughout our operations." [Pfizer, accessed [11/19/21](#)]

Pfizer Claims It Is "Proud To Have Been One Of The Early Signatories To The United Nations (UN) Global Compact." "Pfizer is proud to have been one of the early signatories to the United Nations (UN) Global Compact, an initiative that calls on companies to align strategies and operations with universal principles on human rights, labor, environment, and anti-corruption, and to take actions that advance societal goals." [Pfizer, accessed [11/19/21](#)]

The United Nations Global Compact Outlines A "Business For Rule Of Law Framework" To Guide Companies On How To "Respect And Support The Rule Of Law." "Companies are invited to use the Business for Rule of Law Framework to take action in respecting and supporting the rule of law, serving as a complement to government action. The Framework provides guidance on how business can respect and support the rule of law in a way that business can relate to." [United Nations Global Compact, accessed [11/09/21](#)]

The United Nations Global Compact's Business For Rule Of Law Framework Highlights A Case Example Of A Company Helping To Prevent "Violence" And "Promote Stability During Elections."

"Companies can support the rule of law through core business, strategic social investment, public policy engagement, and collective action. The UN Global Compact has collected over 100 case examples of business action in support of the rule of law, including: [...] A mobile network operator, with the support of the government, developing guidelines to prevent bulk electronic messages inciting violence and sending messages of peace to promote stability during elections." [United Nations Global Compact, accessed [11/09/21](#)]

Pfizer Claims Its Human Rights Policy Is Also "In Line" With The United Nations Guiding Principles On Business And Human Rights, Which States That Companies "Should Address Adverse Human Rights Impacts."

Pfizer States That It Operates ""In Line With The UN Guiding Principles On Business And Human Rights." "In line with the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, Pfizer's human rights policy focuses on addressing risks that could have the most severe impact on people: our patients, our colleagues, the workers of our business partners, and the communities in which we operate." [Pfizer, accessed [11/19/21](#)]

The United Nations' Guiding Principles On Business And Human Rights States Companies Should "Should Address Adverse Human Rights Impacts With Which They Are Involved." "II. THE CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY TO RESPECT HUMAN RIGHTS A. FOUNDATIONAL PRINCIPLES 11. Business enterprises should respect human rights. This means that they should avoid infringing on the human rights of others and should address adverse human rights impacts with which they are involved." [United Nations, accessed [11/09/21](#)]

Pfizer Claims That Its Seeks To "Prevent," "Mitigate," And "Remediate" Any Adverse Human Rights Impacts Related To Its Business. "In honoring our commitment, we seek to prevent and mitigate adverse human rights impacts in our global operations, and remediate any adverse human rights impacts we may inadvertently cause or contribute to. Wherever we can, we also seek to advance human rights." [Pfizer, accessed [11/19/21](#)]