

## **CORDNER CC1 HOTEZ GOV EXEC ORDER REAX**

**A top public health expert is questioning Governor Greg Abbott's decision to issue an executive order banning any entity, including private businesses, from requiring employees get vaccinated against COVID-19.**

**Doctor Peter Hotez is co-director of Texas Children's Hospital Center for Vaccine Development.**

**He told MSNBC today [Tuesday] vaccine mandates are an important tool for stopping the spread of the virus, especially as the death toll continues to rise in Texas.**

***HOTEZ1 “And we're about in the next few weeks, we're likely going into eclipse, California as the worst affected state in the nation. We're probably looking at 80,000 deaths by the end of the year. This is the single greatest tragedy that's ever befallen the state of Texas most likely. And, so, we really need all hands on deck to get everybody vaccinated. So, I don't understand the Executive Order and, and I worry about its consequences.” (:24)***

**Governor Abbott also added the issue to the agenda for the current special legislative session, which ends in a week.**