Dear Legislators of Connecticut,

Thank you for having me here today. My name is Nyla Tresser, I am physics and astronomy teacher and I am a believer in science and medicine. I am here today to stand up for the right to a free and public education for the children of Connecticut regardless of their vaccination status. I believe this emergency bill has been created out of a fearful narrative and I strongly encourage you to not take council in this fear.

I know that all of us in this room have one very important thing in common and that is the safety and well being of our children. With this, the first point I want to make is that Measles in the United States is not the scary, deadly disease that we are lead to believe but is rather a mild, self limiting childhood disease. Measles rarely causes serious adverse reactions and typically results in a fever, cough, runny nose and a rash for 4 -10 days. In the years before the vaccine was introduced in 1963 only 0.01% of measles cases in the United States were fatal. Such low percentages of deaths can be attributed to advancements in our medical system and technological improvements to conditions of living. For a quick stark comparison, 30% of cancer patients die of cancer. When these two fatality rates are compared, it truly leaves me with the feeling that there is a health crisis to worry about and measles is not one of them.

https://physiciansforinformedconsent.org/measles/dis/

I known that all of us have another important thing in common and that is not being the cause of hurting other people. With this, the second point I want to make is that the unvaccinated should not be the only cohorts to blame for outbreaks. Through the science of genotyping it has been found that approximately 1 in 3 measles cases are due to vaccine strains. This was seen in the popular Disneyland outbreak of 2015 where 37% of the cases were of the Measles Type A Vaccine Strain. In addition, fully vaccinated groups such as in academic and military populations, have been prone to outbreaks. The blame game is always on the unvaccinated, however among further investigation, it can be easily seen that the vaccinated are just as likely to catch and spread the diseases as well.

https://jcm.asm.org/content/55/3/735

https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/3821823 https://jvi.asm.org/content/86/1/615 https://www.military.com/daily-news/2019/03/15/navy-ship-changes-schedule-after-outbreak-mump s-disease-aboard.html https://academic.oup.com/cid/article/58/9/1205/2895266

Lastly, I know that all of us have one more thing in common and that is proper safety studies on the medical procedures and devices that we choose to use. With this, the last issue I would like to address is the lack of vaccine safety studies where a true placebo control group is used. For example, the most recent published Danish Study between the MMR vaccine and Autism used a control group that had all their routine vaccines except the MMR and an experimental group that had all routine vaccines plus the MMR. The results showed a slight uptick of Autism in the experimental group but not enough to be statistically different from the control group. The conclusions in the study that the MMR vaccine does not cause autism is ill at best since the control group received the same toxic chemicals such as aluminum, formaldehyde, fetal DNA tissue, MSG and Polysorbate 80. I think this last point is the most scientifically important, especially when the American people are told that the "Science in Settled", however the science can not be settled when there has never been a true safety study ever done.

https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMoa021134

I strongly ask and encourage you to vote no on this bill that will take away the educational rights of Connecticut children. Please do not let the fear tactics being used scare you into this vote. Please remember that the state of CT is well protected from infectious diseases due to its 98.5% vaccination rate. Lastly, I thank you for your time today.

Nyla Tresser Marlborough, CT