

I am writing as a concerned CT citizen.

Below is a copy of my email to Senator Lesser.

I would like to address my concerns to not only Senator Lesser but also this Committee and the entire Connecticut State Legislature.

Thank you for your time.

James Carroll

Hello Senator Lesser,

Thank you for responding to my concerns.

If I were to point to specific "things" they would be Free Will, and the first three words of our American Constitution: **We The People**.

Although I believe that yourself, and your fellow elected officials might have felt at the beginning of the covid-19 pandemic that you had our best interests in mind, it is my, and many other of my fellow citizens belief that the free will of every citizen, guaranteed to us by the Declaration of Independence and The Constitution have been infringed upon.

We The People have the unalienable rights of LIFE, LIBERTY and THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS.

By infringing upon our Liberty, which in essence is our free will, yourself, and fellow elected officials have overstepped the power that We The People have entrusted to you.

Also by infringing upon our liberty, yourself, and other elected officials are denying citizens to use their free will in order to pursue Happiness as they see fit.

LIBERTY is of great importance to myself and every single citizen of these United States of America. Free Will and Liberty go hand in hand.

The very definition of LIBERTY is the state of being free within society from oppressive restrictions imposed by authority on one's way of life and behavior.

The second paragraph of the Declaration of Independence clearly spells out the unalienable rights of mine, yours and every other person who holds the great honor of being a citizen of these United States of America.

Section one of the fourteen Amendment goes further in stating "No state shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States, nor shall any State deprive any

person of life, liberty or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the law"

Technically Governor Lamont's Executive Orders are not laws, but they are being treated as such; imposing fines, restricting travel to and from CT, Imposing restrictions that will not allow citizens to return to their places of employment so they can feed, house and clothe their families and themselves, and most egregiously these Executive Orders have severely damaged the morale and mental health of Connecticut citizens.

I would like to know whatever happened to the terms: Enter at Own Risk, Use at Own Risk and the business owner's having THEIR RIGHT to refuse service.

It should be left up to a business owners discretion whether to allow or not allow masks in their establishments, just as a consumer should have the choice whether to patronize an establishment based upon a particular business's policies.

That is a tenet of a free market society.

Let me preface this with I am not a tobacco user, and believe it is an adults choice in choosing whether to use tobacco products or not.

With that in mind if yourself, and other elected officials have the health and welfare of the citizens at heart then why do you, and your fellow elected officials allow the use of a product that **kills nearly a half a million citizens every single year, with only a warning to USE AT YOUR OWN RISK?!**

Without bringing the actual debate of abortion into this conversation, I would like to quote an often used phrase from that debate "MY BODY MY CHOICE"!

It should be every citizens right to make our own choices. It has been almost six months since the declaration of the Health State of Emergency, by this time I personally doubt that there is not one citizen in the US that is unaware of the danger of Covid-19, or unaware of the suggested guidelines from the C.D.C., W.H.O. and our very own government on preventing the infection and transmission of covid-19. Although all of the data is not in as of yet there is reasonable evidence of who are most at risk of infection and death, and it is my opinion that the vast majority of Americans are taking preventative measure to protect loved ones and others from contracting covid-19 to the best of their ability.

In conclusion, it is the belief of myself, and many others that the governmental response of shutting down our state has done more damage to economic prosperity and mental health than covid-19 has or will ever do. Although all the data is not in as if yet there has been a spike in drug and alcohol abuse, suicides, spousal, sexual and child abuse cases and all this is more likely than not due to the shut down.

I implore you to do the right thing. There are many people who came before us who worked hard, fought and died so that we have our three unalienable rights of LIFE, LIBERTY and THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS

Please do not let their sacrifices have been in vain.

Thank you

James Patrick Carroll