

My name is Daniel Cowan this letter is specifically to Senator Cabrera, Representative Welander, Senator Maroney, and Governor Lamont,

I urge my legislators to vote; not to extend the emergency executive orders, and to vote down each order individually, I wish to see how you voted on each item. I wish to hold you accountable as my legislators. I am emphatically telling you to vote for me and not your party. I appreciate the opportunity to provide this comment.

In addition, I share that I am very emotionally upset that our governor is claiming the relaxation of the emergency orders is due to our compliance and obedience as good little serfs of the state versus his complete and total failure to handle the pandemic in a thoughtful, cautious, and prudent way. Instead, he used the full totalitarian powers that he could muster and wishes to continue to muster. If your ideas or so good why do you feel the need to force yourself on me. Forcing yourself on someone to take what you want is not love, it is exactly what you know it to be, it is assault. Stop assaulting me, my family, my co-workers, allow us to give you consent by allowing us to voluntarily give the charity of consideration to our fellow state residents, versus you just taking by force the thing you want.

Because of governors like Ned Lamont we now have increased vaccine hesitancy in poorly run states like Connecticut, a rampant childhood trauma problem we will need to deal with for years, the complete flight of highly productive individuals from the city centers and the state, and a complete distrust in the national and state public health departments. All because you are too prideful to admit when you made an obvious mistake, that we can all see now. I outline one such example below of the mistake made.

On September 4, 2020, Governor Lamont issued Executive Order No. 9, Section 1 providing that the Connecticut Commissioner of Education may issue binding guidance, rules, or orders for the operation of schools or childcare settings that each deems necessary to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic or its effects or to implement any previous or future executive order issued in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and that such rules or binding guidance may include rules related to the required use of masks or face-coverings in school buildings. That Executive Order is set to expire on February 15, 2022.

The State of Connecticut, including residents of Bethany, Orange, and Woodbridge my personal town, in particular, have high numbers of people who are COVID-19 recovered, vaccinated against COVID-19, or both. Many countries, states, towns, communities, and schools throughout the United States and the world have made mask-wearing optional, with no effect on the community spread of COVID-19.

Furthermore, a recent paper from Johns Hopkins University found that

lockdowns and mitigation strategies have had little to no effect on improving public health: <https://sites.krieger.jhu.edu/iae/files/2022/01/A-Literature-Review-and-Meta-Analysis-of-the-Effects-of-Lockdowns-on-COVID-19-Mortality.pdf?fbclid=IwAR1Pm6Dpx-rliQrUtSGrK-sHXia9pAaYdngz8XlHGbw3KPyiJMQnE2w3vY>

"While this meta-analysis concludes that lockdowns have had little to no public health effects, they have imposed enormous economic and social costs where they have been adopted. In consequence, lockdown policies are ill-founded and should be rejected as a pandemic policy instrument."

I am a concerned parent who strongly believes in mask choice in the Bethany, Orange, Woodbridge, and Amity Public Schools. I also urge my local Selectmen, Boards of Education, and Superintendents who read this letter to act immediately to make the wearing of masks and/or face coverings in school and town buildings optional for all students, faculty, staff, community members, and visitors, regardless of vaccination status, effective immediately upon the expiration of Governor Lamont's Executive Order No. 9, Section 1.

I repeat what was said in my first line, that I urge you my legislators to vote; not to extend the emergency executive orders, and to vote down each order individually, I wish to see how you voted on each item.

Intentionally,

Daniel Cowan  
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