https://www.journalinquirer.com/connecticut\_and\_region/lamont-to-meet-with-legi slative-leaders-to-discuss-extending-emergency-powers/article\_ba255a22-157d-1 1ec-bac9-6f05d972e91e.html

{{Reference}} ^^

February 6, 2022

CT Legislators & Governor Lamont,

Governor Lamont was quoted in September 2021 saying "We need an extension of the emergency orders because that allows me to put in place executive orders, which we need to keep you safe." This was in relation to his SIXTH extension to his executive powers. We are now in February 2022, where he's asking for his SEVENTH extension to his executive powers. Governor Lamont, perhaps you need a refresher - government is not here to keep us safe, government is here to protect our rights.

Our great country was founded on a simple principle that government would only be instituted to secure our God given rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, and that government would derive its powers from the consent of the governed. Let me be clear, I do not consent to these continued abuses of power, breaking our balance of three equal branches of government. And I am not alone.

The Declaration of Independence goes on to rightfully state that "mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security." I am here to provide new guards for my future security. It is apparent that Governor Lamont and every single State Representative and Senator that has continued to vote in favor of these extensions does so to reduce us under absolute despotism. And enough is enough. These executive orders need to expire - period. We must return the power to the governed and to three equal parts of government. Or it will be within our rights to throw off such a government, and let us not forget we are in an election year.

COVID is here to stay. There will undoubtedly be more variants and there will be spikes in new cases. February 2022 is very different than March 2020. We better understand COVID, we have therapeutics, we have vaccines & boosters available to anybody that needs them and wants them, we have early medical interventions and we also know who is most at risk and how to combat risk through diet & exercise and vitamin supplementation to name a few. For those so inclined, they can continue to wear a tight fitting N95 mask when in public places. These are the safety measures each person can take individually to combat COVID. They do NOT need you to mandate or abuse your power to keep them safe, Governor Lamont.

You have been hearing from many parents recently - I, too, am a parent. We will fight to the ends of the earth for our children and if you think for one minute that you know better for my children than I do, you are sadly mistaken and have underestimated the will and power of a mother. And I will not sleep, I will not stop until each one of you are out of your elected seats. Beware - this is not a fight you want to take on.

I will close with this, think very carefully about how you will vote. Do not extend Governor Lamont's emergency powers or you will see the organization, strategy and execution of those that have suffered while the evils were sufferable.

- Diane Melchionne
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