

Good afternoon,

I remember when my biggest worries in motherhood were things like my baby eating a cheerio off the floor. Was that a lifetime ago? Today I'm wondering how much damage I'm doing covering my child's face half the day and supporting her sitting 6 feet away from her best friend at lunch. I'm guessing how she feels when her buddy is absent and she eats lunch alone. I lose sleep over her mental health, the physical repercussions, what she's learning socially, if her incredible teachers warmth and guidance is enough to balance all that is wrong with this year. I'm contemplating how my 4 year old is learning emotions, social cues, and early literacy when she cannot see her teachers or peers faces. Each night I soothe her chapped skin, rubbed raw under a mask, and tell her I'm sorry and it's going to feel better. I lose my breathe realizing she's never known a normal school experience. I'm standing in my kitchen gazing out the window holding a handout I was just given from school on explaining illness to my 4 year old.

This is not a way of life. Any emergency has passed. It is long overdue that the Governor and the legislators make every effort to restore individual liberties and choice to us, the people.

We all can and should research the actual science, which typically doesn't appear on the nightly news. We need to restore basic freedoms, medical choice to the people, and trust in our fellow citizens. We are a democratic republic and its long overdue that we start acting like one. I ask that you vote no to the extension of powers for Governor Lamont. I also ask that you do not vote to codify any laws. Each executive order should have a public hearing, a discussion, and a vote. We have elected positions to keep fairness and balance to the Governorship, otherwise we just have a dictator.

I hope that you are giving a great amount of consideration to parents who are writing to you and giving spoken testimony. We are beyond done weighing our children's health against arbitrary rules and restrictions. Each word we speak is a moment taken away from the most important job there is to us. It is time to give us back that time, our freedom to choose and our peace of mind.

Sincerely,  
Heather Simon  
Resident of Glastonbury, mother of two