

To all on the committee,

This state has many residual problems as a result of declarations confining people to masking, to not gathering even for family events, to not attending worship services, to not being able to conduct their small businesses freely, and to the extra modifications made so businesses can stay open. All people from the individual to the largest corporation have been forced to do things which have not benefitted them. Lately comparisons have been made between areas of intense declarations to those areas allowing for individuals to make considerate decisions. The emergency declarations have not made the difference in those succumbing to COVID.

Masking has evolved from none to even a 3 or 4 layer variety because there was no certainty in what should be done to protect others. Time to take off the masks – first the ones over the face and then the one which covers up another purpose for masking. That purpose is control and the falsely convey the appearance of caring for others. That is the masking of the government officials who do not want to give up their control.

We have been known in this state as the Constitution State. It is time we recognize that freedom of the individual as well as individual responsibility are key to our republic form of government. It is time we teach that again and live that again.

Please do NOT give the Governor continuing control of the lives and welfare of all citizens.

Respectfully submitted, Judith Ruhm (New Hartford, CT)