## **Kevin Graham**

18 Bayside Ter, Riverside, CT 06878 | 646-342-8533 | kpjgraham@gmail.com

February 7, 2022

General Assembly The State of Connecticut

## Dear General Assembly members,

I write to give **written testimony** to you today to express my sincerest opposition to the extension of Governor Ned Lamont's Continuation of Emergency Declarations and Limited Executive Orders, and most specifically EO 9-1 and EO 13.

We are now two you years into this pandemic and the continuation of the Governor's EO power at his point is beyond unnecessary. The Governor's basis for this continuation, as per his January 21, 2021 letter, seems to be due to the "highly contagious" omicron variant, which was infecting so many back in December and January, even though the vast majority of those infected were only experiencing "mild" symptoms, as was the case in South Africa. However, now infections, cases and most importantly hospitalizations are on a sharp decline. There is absolutely no logical reason or basis for the extension of the Governor's orders and most certainly not as it pertains to mandating masks both in public and especially in schools. Our children, rarely ever effected by any strain of the virus, have certainly suffered enough. Masks were likely effective at the pandemic's onset and for the first year, however now as most individuals are vaccinated (or at the very least, have the option to get vaccinated) are experiencing much milder symptoms if infected and typically not even wearing the proper masks, this should end.

Please let this serve as my **written testimony** to let the Governor's Emergency Orders **expire** on February, 15, 2022, not continue.

Sincerely,

Kevin Graham

