

February 7, 2022

Testimony in **Opposition** of the extension of Governor Lamont's Executive Orders

Members of the Public Health Committee,

My name is Meredith Nielson and I live in Cheshire.

While I appreciate the opportunity to weigh in on the extension of Governor Lamont's selected executive orders, I am frustrated by this process. If I understand correctly, this legislature has been asked to vote on 11 distinct executive orders as one package. This is pork politics. If one order is deemed necessary while another is not, the latter would be voted in anyway, by default. These measures are affecting people's lives, in some situations, profoundly. It is not okay to vote one in, simply because it was part of the package. And now Governor Lamont appears to be dangling a new carrot as a voting incentive, by announcing his plan to "allow" school districts to make the decision for themselves. As a parent in this state, I am fed up and worn out.

Two themes are recurrent in the majority of these orders: mask wearing and a distinction between those who have received a so-called COVID "vaccine," and those who have not. I will note that I use the word "vaccine" reluctantly, and with quotes, as this product is not truly a vaccine, despite popular perception. I think it is important to keep that in mind.

Concerning masks, the time to end the mandates is past due. I'm still not sure why they are so heavily relied upon as a mitigation strategy when it seems clear that they don't work. In fact, if the masks were effective, there should be no reason for this hearing to be virtual. Why is the LOB still closed? Why are the kids still distanced at school, even though they are wearing masks? It would be wonderful if the Department of Public Health would provide the actual science being used to justify the masks, especially for our children. I am not clear about the fact that the language of EO 13A would seemingly still prohibit schools from allowing the "non-vaccinated" kids to take off the masks. If that EO is extended, how does this impact school boards' decisions? This leads to my concerns over the distinction being made between the jabbed and un-jabbed. I have some questions that I hope you will consider as well before casting a vote.

It is certainly no secret that a COVID "vaccine" does not stop infection or transmission. So even if masks were effective, why are only the non-injected people required to wear them? Why are only "vaccinated" individuals allowed to visit nursing homes without a test? What logic is there in fast-tracking the training of new nurse aides, when qualified medical professionals were pushed out by "vaccine" mandates? Again, any "vaccinated" person can just as easily acquire and transmit the COVID virus. If asymptomatic transmission is truly valid, then these protocols are only serving to increase risk. As the "vaccines" serve

primarily to reduce symptoms of an infected person, it is only logical that “vaccinated” individuals present a higher risk to those who are susceptible.

And why are we not considering those who have had a recent COVID infection in all of this? Those are the people who truly have no reason to submit to any of these protocols. Quite honestly, it isn't rocket science to see the discrepancies and faulty logic at play here. If it seems like these measures don't make sense, it's because they don't.

The time has come to let our children have the social interaction and fresh air they need, and to use our heads in applying common-sense measures that will actually protect our most vulnerable populations - like those in nursing homes.

Please allow these executive orders to expire. Thank you.