

Written Testimony

Submitted to:

Legislative Information Hearing: Continuation of Emergency Declarations and Limited Executive Orders

Submitted by:

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It is time to end the State of Emergency in the State of Connecticut. It is time to end the mask mandates for school children. COVID-19 is no longer a pandemic. The omicron variant has show us that it is truly endemic. It is time to move on with our lives.

The case for mandatory school masking has fallen apart as data has finally begun to illustrate what many parents knew all along:

1. The risk of harm from COVID-19 to the overwhelming majority of children is infinitesimally small.
2. The adults who surround them at school have almost entirely been vaccinated and boosted and are thus at low risk for severe illness.
3. The protection provided by masks, other than N95, remains undemonstrated.
4. The harm that mandatory mask wearing has caused has been revealed in numerous recent studies.

This harm is both physical, psychological and developmental.

As the parent of 4 boys, ranging in age from 9 to 17, I would like to add my voice to the many voices urging our governor and our legislators to end the State of Emergency and allow Connecticut residents and parents to regain the right to make health decisions for themselves and their children.

Thank you.