

Dear Public Health Committee Members,

I urge you to oppose the extension of any emergency powers for Governor Lamont for the State of Connecticut. There is and has been NO need to be in a state of emergency for some time now. Residents should be free to make health decisions for themselves. There have been enough resources made available for us to keep ourselves and our families safe. We have been provided home tests and multiple free test sites throughout the state, vaccination and booster opportunities, and treatments that are being advanced each day.

Covid-19 is now a part of our lives, and we need to move forward instead of living in fear. We need to show our children that they do not need to hide behind their masks and start addressing the issues that 2 years of wearing them have caused. My teenage children have had Covid twice now, and still habitually reach for a mask when out in public even though they are not required to wear them. My 4 year old niece is so terrified of the virus, that she also has had, she insists on wearing her mask with her family at home.

Life after Covid is eventual, and by removing the state of emergency in the State of Connecticut, we can take our first steps forward like many other states have done already.

Thank you for your time,
Tracy Osborne
Meriden, Connecticut