

April 3rd, 2023

To: **Senator Rafferty, Representative Brennan, and Distinguished Members of the Committee On Education and Cultural Affairs**

From: **Alex McMahan**
Lewiston, Maine 04240

Subject: Support of LD 51

I'm here today to testify in support of LD 51, and all the bills being heard in this committee today for medical autonomy. .

Vaccines have obviously come under much scrutiny in recent years. The covid vaccines were sold to the world on being safe and effective, yet it came out afterwards that they are neither. This monumental blunder led to a mass loss of trust in the establishment.

Bill Gates, the covid vaccine's biggest grifter, said just a couple months ago that "the current vaccines are not infection-blocking. They're not broad, so when new variants come up you lose protection, and they have very short duration, particularly in the people who matter, which are old people." In other words - **not effective**.

In 2021, without supporting evidence, the CDC claimed that the COVID-19 vaccines "can keep you from getting and spreading the virus that causes COVID-19." Yet the CDC director herself admitted at a later date that "what they can't do anymore is prevent transmission."

So, according to the CDC, not to mention what everybody can see with their own eyes, being vaccinated does not mean you cannot transmit the virus to someone.

And with that, the logic of covid vaccine mandates disintegrates.

Covid vaccine aside, I am simply pointing out that the mechanisms that determine certain pharmaceutical products to be mandatory have no rightful authority to do so. The establishment has lost its credibility. It was dead wrong about the biggest issue of our time. Nobody has the rightful authority to say who has to put what into their body, especially organizations with track records as poor as the government. Keep in mind, Maine had face mask mandates not long ago. Of course now, there have been hundreds of studies showing that masks are ineffective, most notably the highly respected Cochrane Library, known for its serious research methods, which found that masking does nothing - with 276,000 participants in randomized controlled trials. No reduction in influenza-like or Covid-like illness and no reduction in confirmed flu or COVID. Yet Maine required face masks even though there were zero serious studies demonstrating them to be effective. Are we really expected to rely on the same authority that failed so blatantly on mask mandates to dictate vaccine mandates?

The trust has been lost. Government has no right to be meddling in health policy. The decision making authority belongs in the hands of the individuals, or in the case of minors, in the hands of the parents. Parents know what is best for their kids far more than the government does. Do the right thing and pass LD 51 and all the other bills today.

I believe the Maine Council of Churches is going to claim that none of their 7 denominations oppose vaccines, and therefore religious exemptions are invalid. What an absurd position. What kind of organization claims to have a monopoly on religious viewpoints, of all things? This organization appears to have strayed from the path of good onto the path of authoritarianism. Might I point out that although the Maine Council of Churches represents 7 denominations, there are over 4,000 religions on this planet? Might I also remind you of the 1st Amendment of the Constitution, which plainly states: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof."

Our rights do not end where another person's fear begins.

Thank you.

Alex McMahan