

LD 51

Hello , my name is Lana Hall and both of my kids are fully vaccinated. They both successfully graduated from a public high school prior to 2021.

The first time I ever questioned vaccines was when LD 798 was put on a ballot. That was the first time I ever asked: "why do some parents choose not to vaccinate their kids?"

I learned a lot about the process of vaccine development, testing, and FDA approval. And just like me so did a lot of other Maine parents.

Covid lockdowns and vaccine mandates brought more changes, including my son being forced to quite a very successful college career due to covid vaccine mandate.

Many families, just like ours lost trust in CDC and FDA recommendations.

According to MAINE SCHOOL ENROLLMENT - Education Indicators for Maine <sup>X</sup> "The COVID-19 pandemic has had significant implications for public school enrollment across Maine. Current enrollment remains more than 7,000 students below pre-pandemic levels."

Interestingly, that also coordinates with the timeframe LD 798 went into effect.

To bring it into perspective 7000 students is more than all currently enrolled kids in all of Portland's public schools.

Continuous decreased enrollments will lead to lack of state and federal funding for many Maine schools. Which would lead to public school closings.

Imagine having to shut down all the schools in Portland ?

Maine already has the oldest population nationally. We can not afford to have uneducated or poorly educated generation of kids or even worse lose those kids to other states, with favorable medical freedom laws.

In conclusion, I ask you 2 more things.

1. What makes you, the education committee, qualified to make a medical decisions for all Maine children?
2. Aren't you as lawmakers sworn to uphold the law of constitution including our constitutional right for religion freedom?

\* *educationindicators.me/Maine-school-enrollment-2/*