

Joel Chapman

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Dear Representatives,

I'm writing in support of bill LD 1039 because the people of Maine -(at least all the ones I know) are sick and tired of our constitutional rights being stomped and livelihoods destroyed so the Governor can push her agenda and collect federal money to pay for her frivolous spending debts. The hypocritical, draconian orders Gov. Mills imposed again and again while the citizens representatives got no say make no logical sense to thinking individuals, have lasted far too long, were far beyond her constitutional jurisdiction, and only served to bruise the backbone of the state, unnecessarily drive small businesses into bankruptcy, and isolate our elderly.

The first issue I'd like to address is the fact that according to CDC data, although deaths from virus related illnesses were down in 2020, Deaths from suicide, drug overdose, and other medical emergencies went up. My daughter had impacted wisdom teeth that got infected and the dentist offices were afraid to see her because of how they interpreted Gov. Mills orders. My neighbor Russell Stevens had to walk around in pain holding his hernia in with his hand for MONTHS because the doctor wouldn't see him until until it became a true "emergency." While people were free to lower their immune systems at the liquor store my daughter was forced to stay at home in pain with impacted wisdom teeth. While some could get visit their hairdresser, My neighbor had to walk around for months holding his guts in waiting for his hernia to go septic in order to warrant enough of an emergency to get surgery.

The dictionary definition of a pandemic is when between 3-4% of the population perishes. Our country has been at less than .1 percent of that. Freedom to live our lives requires some level of risk. If we were to put the level of risk of COVID 19 death into perspective then by the same standards and risk percentage rates we shouldn't drive automobiles.

Elderly people have a higher risk of dying from any sickness. Every elderly person I know would rather chance dying from sickness vs living alone and isolated from the ones that love them and dying from a broken heart. We put terrorists in

isolation to break them down. Is that what we want for our elderly loved ones? Mother-In-Law unable to have visitors including her own husband while in the hospital for heart problems. People need love and support as much or than they need chemical medicine. To deny people the ability to be with their loved ones regardless of what bug is going around is criminal.

Our state and federal constitution gives the people of Maine the sovereign right to worship where and how they choose. Dictator Mills does not have the right to tell people what they can and can't do in church. It's especially hypocritical when people can go to the bar or restaurant and take their masks off while they eat or get intoxicated. As a combat veteran I support LD 1039 because if the Governor can't exercise discretion with the mandates she orders then "We the the people" have the constitutional responsibility to our fellow Americans to keep her in check. I sincerely hope that you will vote OUGHT TO PASS this bill!

Respectfully,

Joel Chapman