



Health Freedom Louisiana
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RE: Help Needed to Protect Louisiana Children

Members of the Louisiana Legislature:

For two years, Governor John Bel Edwards and the Louisiana Department of Health forced the masking of Louisiana children by withholding access to education. They forced the use of an untested medical device on a weaker demographic with zero safety data on its long-term use, in clear violation of long standing medical ethics, human rights, and in violation of our own state's constitution and many statutes protecting religious freedom. We asked repeatedly, including through public records requests to LDH, for evidence that long-term masking did not cause harm and **none has ever been sufficiently provided**. Please find our initial letter on mask safety here: [Request for Evidence of Safety](#).¹

Now, one of the most outspoken proponents of strict covid mitigation protocols, Dr Leana Wen, has made the startling announcement that [two years of masking her toddler has caused harm to her son's language development](#).²

In addition to forcing an untested medical device - masks - on our children, the Louisiana Department of Health continues to make false and misleading claims regarding covid vaccination for infants and children. We recently wrote a letter to the legislature detailing the many false claims made by LDH, most concerning being the recommendation that covid shots be administered with other shots in preparation for back to school. **Co-administration of vaccines was excluded from the clinical trials**. There was **no data** to support LDH's recommendation.

But now there *is* data, and it is startling. Onn July 15, 2022 the Journal of American Medical Association published a study titled [Reactogenicity of Simultaneous COVID-19 mRNA Booster and Influenza Vaccination in the US](#).³ In it, the researchers reported:

"In this cohort study of self-reported data from 981099 persons aged 12 years or older, simultaneous administration of a COVID-19 mRNA booster dose and an influenza vaccine was associated with 8% to 11% increases, respectively, in systemic reaction compared with COVID-19 mRNA booster alone. These differences were statistically significant."

Other findings:

"Inability to perform normal daily activities in the week following vaccination was reported by 9519 respondents (15.5%) who simultaneously received Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 booster and influenza

¹ healthfreedomla.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/School-Reopening-Concerns-1.pdf

² [washingtonpost.com/opinions/2022/08/23/my-kids-wont-wear-masks-school/](https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2022/08/23/my-kids-wont-wear-masks-school/)

³ jamanetwork.com/journals/jamanetworkopen/fullarticle/2794318?fbclid=IwAR1Obn5JRDNFW63L2Cr7kufTZiGbO7TL_YvDAy_IWOFR-rUCeBNEL0-VY5w

vaccines and 6811 respondents (22.2%) who simultaneously received Moderna COVID-19 booster and influenza vaccines. . . ”

“Among the remaining respondents [12], reasons for hospitalization included excessive vomiting, supraventricular tachycardia, cardiac arrhythmia, chest discomfort, autoinflammatory disease flare, kidney infection, hypoxia, and stroke.”

We have repeatedly asked for the resignation of Secretary of Health Dr. Courtney Phillips and State Health Officer Dr. Joseph Kanter. The policies they have enacted and continue to endorse in regards to covid mitigation violate medical ethics and informed consent. Louisiana parents must be made aware and appropriate steps taken to care for children harmed by the State's actions.

We continue to ask for your assistance in this endeavor, now and in the future:

- There must be new and competent leadership put in place at LDH immediately
- The recommendation for masking and covid vaccination, especially for children, must be immediately rescinded
- Laws must be enacted to:
 - Identify, correct, and compensate for any harms caused by state endorsed covid mitigation protocols
 - R.S. 17:439.1, which gives immunity to schools from claims related to covid only IF schools follow mitigation protocols, must be repealed (or at least Section E of that law).
 - Protect parental rights in regards to medical interventions - codify Louisiana Children's Code
 - Remove any authority granted to the Louisiana Department of Health to usurp rights protected by the State's Constitution
 - Protect the health freedom of every Louisianan

Sincerely,
Jill Hines and Fiorella Trapani
Co-Directors
Health Freedom Louisiana