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April 24, 2023

Re: HB372, Provides relative to mandates, requirements, recommendations, instructions, or guidance from federal or international organizations

Honorable Members of the House Health and Welfare Committee:

We write to you in support of HB372 by Representative Kathy Edmonston.

Neither the policy makers appointed to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) nor the governing body of the World Health Organization (WHO) are elected by the citizens of Louisiana, nor are these appointed officials ultimately accountable to Louisianans. Citizens of Louisiana have no recourse or means to redress potential harm incurred by enacting policies initiated by the CDC or WHO.

These two entities are not independent agencies, rather they receive funding from organizations, wealthy individuals, industries (pharma), and other countries, which creates a serious conflict of interest and the very real possibility of the weaponization of public health. 1

Both CDC and WHO policies in response to Covid-19 were not informed by sound evidence. Masking, testing, and mass vaccination policies conferred negative outcomes without ultimately reducing infection or transmission rates.²

The CDC and WHO abandoned long standing public health policies in favor of unscientific, illogical, and untested policies, including³:

- Lockdowns/Shutdowns
- Hospital closures
- Flattening the curve
- Business closures
- School closures

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/281876323_Why_the_Corruption_of_the_World_Health_Organization_WHO_is_the_Biggest_Threat_to_the_World%27s_Public_Health_of_Our_Time ² https://gh.bmj.com/content/bmjgh/7/5/e008684.full.pdf

https://brownstone.org/articles/a-big-picture-look-at-the-disastrous-public-health-response-to-covid-19/

- Social distancing
- Plexiglass
- Contact tracing
- PCR testing
- Quarantine health people
- Ignoring natural immunity
- Ignoring early and effective treatments
- Masking, especially children and pregnant women

The CDC and the WHO ignored the data on:

- Asymptomatic transmission
- Prior immunity
- Obesity
- Vaccine efficacy
- Vaccine safety
- Vaccinating pregnant women
- The effect of lockdowns on the economy, businesses, and especially families in poverty

Countries which opted not to follow initial Covid-19 policies issued by the WHO ultimately did not experience significantly increased prevalence or mortality from Covid-19, but ultimately avoided the economic impacts and increase in all-cause mortality incurred by nations which implemented the policies.⁴

Covid-19 policies initiated by these two agencies instituted the greatest transfer of wealth in our country's history. According to Robert F. Kennedy, Jr:

"The health issues were almost dwarfed by the economic cataclysm that befell our country. The IMF and Harvard study by Larry Summers showed that the cost of the lockdown to the United States was \$16 trillion. \$16 trillion for nothing! We shifted \$4 trillion from the middle class in this country to the super-rich. We created 500 new billionaires. The existing billionaires increased their wealth, according to the Oxfam study that came out three days ago, by 30 percent. This was a gift to the rich.⁵"

States across the country are introducing legislation to protect state sovereignty from the CDC and the WHO. Federal legislation has been introduced to withdraw the United States from the WHO.

Health policies initiated for the betterment of Louisianans are best informed with Louisianans in mind. Recent history is evidence that national and international agencies like the CDC and WHO do not have Louisianans' best interest as a central focus or they would have initiated programs to improve individual health when Covid-19 proved to be far worse for those with significant comorbidities like obesity. To date, the Louisiana Department of Health has never addressed the significance of individual health in combating viral infection, instead deferring to ineffective and harmful policies established by these other agencies.

⁴ https://brownstone.org/articles/sweden-did-exceptionally-well/

⁵ https://brownstone.org/articles/robert-f-kennedy-jr-on-lockdowns/

When the next pandemic hits, there must be guardrails in place to protect Louisianans from what can only be described as the weaponization of public health. That can only happen if our own state health agency is forced to evaluate and investigate suggested policies from other health agencies, including the CDC and the WHO, as both have proven to be compromised and untrustworthy. Rep Edmonston's HB372 is a necessary means to that end.

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