

From: [Samantha Brining](#)
To: [Public Testimony](#)
Subject: MASK CHOICE FOR OUR KIDS
Date: Friday, August 6, 2021 9:33:27 AM

To Whom It May Concern,

<https://www.ormanager.com/briefs/university-of-louisville-study-finds-mask-mandates-did-not-slow-spread-of-covid-19/>

<https://www.medrxiv.org/content/10.1101/2021.05.18.21257385v1.full.pdf>

I am writing to ask, no plead, to vote to allow parents the CHOICE of whether or not we want to mask our children. They have been through enough. And are finally feeling their lives come back to somewhat “normal” this summer with activities opening, parks & pools accessible, and getting to run and enjoy being a kid. Forcing us to cover their face again with a mask is not what most of them need right now. They are mentally suffering at the hands of their childhood being tarnished by something that has been shown to not stop the COVID virus. It even states it on the label of all the “cute” mask everyone is buying. It is time to stop letting the fear of what if’s and could be’s run us over our children’s true mental health. They are being taught to live in continuous fear over something that has killed less children than suicide and local homicide. It is no way for them to live. Having a mask forced over their face for HOURS while it gets soaked in saliva, food, sweat, dirt, bacteria, and who knows what else considering what messes I find around my house on any given day from their curious, exploring brains, is NOT okay. You are just as much responsible for our children’s mental health as their physical one. I have seen first hand from my child being exposed without a mask, and none of his peers getting it as well, just how resilient they are. It was also not brought home to any families, including mine that has a history of bad pneumonia and a pregnancy at the time. Let them breath. Let them run without tripping because they can’t see their feet. And let parents choose what is best for their child. If you don’t think, that as a mother, I don’t lose sleep over everything that involves my child, then you don’t understand a mother’s love. I have dug, researched, and analyzed every single detail pertaining to my child and mask and know the best thing for my child is to get to decide what is best for them individually. We are NOT asking you to ban mask, we are asking for the choice for our kids’ medical decision. Choices, medical decisions, and freedoms, that is what you are starting to overstep today with these decisions. Be careful how far over the line you are willing to go. I pray HARD that you pray and are guided to do the right thing. Our children are counting on you to allow them to not be robbed another year of their childhood. I’ve attached a study done by university of Louisville that showed how little the mask effected the number of Covid cases compared to areas that never mandated the mask. I attached the actual research along with an article that gives the general overview. States all across the US are already starting school, most without mask mandates for the children. Most of us were compliant for a year, and most of us will no longer be. We will go to battle for our children. They are worth it!

Praying hard as you read through these and have to weigh this decision.

Samantha Brining, Kansas City, MO resident