

I strongly support the passage of SB156

and would like my voice heard and counted.

I would also like to encourage support or passage of legislation applying to any and all discrimination including masks. Below is part of the experience I've had under the threat of vaccine discrimination and the ongoing mask discrimination.

As a critical thinking free person I have been discriminated against for almost 2 years now on a daily basis. The government has been enabling and promoting this discrimination and that should end now.

From the beginning the fear and the segregation have been the main message by our local officials and media. The continued mandates and daily reports of case numbers and injection rates perpetuate that fear. Anyone trying to speak reasonably about the risk and negative impacts of masking and business restrictions or unproven injections is labeled as a conspiracy theorist and silenced or cancelled. In Juneau alone we have beautiful, thoughtful, caring and hardworking business owners being threatened with violence, bullied and called racists simply for voicing support for the natural human freedoms recognized by a constitution that is the founding document for one of the most free and successful countries on earth. The USA has historically given hope to many in the world that true freedom is possible. Now that freedom is being scorned and those trying to preserve it, punished and reviled as uncaring and selfish bigots. I hold that the main reason this division and hate is occurring is a result of exactly how Juneau and much the country has handled this trying time. There is no doubt that something devastating and unprecedented is occurring but the debate or science is far from settled on what exactly is happening let alone how to best address it. I, for one, believe that anything going against promoting unity and upholding the freedoms recognized by the constitution is criminal and devastating this town and country.

There's the science, and then there's the shifting message to try and set expectations after the fact. The covid injection, according to many world leaders, scientists and media reports, would indeed stop people from catching covid or being hospitalized. Which led to neighbors being afraid of any one who chose to not take the injection and blame them for rises in cases. We've learned that's not true. Not only is it not true but many that said it would be true now say it was never intended to do that, more lies. From the first weeks of the shots many people were speaking up that it wasn't stopping the spread, they were shunned and cancelled. I work in most of the hospitals in southeast AK and in May of 2021, I was told to hold off on my scheduled work because Covid has been "blowing through the "vaccinated" and It has spread to a great deal of hospital employees despite the shots" and the masks. We have known this for over 1 year and some officials, you still here the ads on the radio from locals here in Juneau, are still saying it prevents the spread so get your shot and we can end this. That is blatantly false.

Most types of masks and cloth masks in particular were shown in 2020 to be ineffective at stopping the spread of covid, but that science was ignored (and the news reports about it disappeared) once again

many very qualified people were speaking up that there are very valid concerns with universal masking and it's benefits are negligible at best. More shunning and discrediting. Instead, the political "experts" thought it was more important to say "We've got to do something!" even if that something did not provide any tangible results. The hypocrisy and the lies do nothing but sow division and hate. People are not dumb, they know when they are being deceived and manipulated and they don't like it.

Qualified, well-researched medical doctors and epidemiologists in this town (Juneau) and around the world were shut down and silenced if they didn't mimic the CDC approved talking points. Which are now crumbling on a daily basis. Still, one of the most important scientific facts that local and national leadership won't discuss is the lack of risk to healthy, able-bodied, children and working age adults. These people are not "filling up" hospitals, and a little self-guided research will expose how misleading the headlines are - no conspiracy theories necessary. Although they do become self-evident once one takes the time to learn the facts and the real science versus authoritarian narratives.

Since the Mask mandates I have been forced to wear them enough that I have developed fairly severe asthma that limits my activities and keeps me up, sometimes panicked and gasping for air, many nights. I am now on daily medication and have to manage all that comes with it. I have never been diagnosed with or prescribed any medication for breathing related illness prior to 2021. My condition technically exempts me from the CBJ mask mandates but because of the fear and daily messaging that people not wearing masks or not jabbed are responsible for all of this suffering, many businesses will not allow me in. Public buildings, which are my places of work included. I want to see Alaska lower all mitigation mandates to recommendations and enact laws to protect medical freedom without risk of retribution for everyone and forever.

Thank you,

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