

Sixty-seventh Legislative Assembly of North Dakota

Re: Testimony in favor of HB 1323

Attn: Committee Members,

I, Todd Kjelland am writing in favor of passing House Bill 1323.

As Dr Fauci himself said... (<https://www.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/bacterial-pneumonia-caused-most-deaths-1918-influenza-pandemic>)

- a. "...The work presents complementary lines of evidence from the fields of pathology and history of medicine to support this conclusion. "The weight of evidence we examined from both historical and modern analyses of the 1918 influenza pandemic favors a scenario in which viral damage followed by bacterial pneumonia led to the vast majority of deaths," says co-author NIAID Director Anthony S. Fauci, M.D. "In essence, the virus landed the first blow while bacteria delivered the knockout punch."

While the scientific evidence regarding effectiveness and safety of masking for viral protection is in question, the perception of mask wearers has a long negative history, most which is also contrary to religious beliefs.

The symbol of the mask itself represents demonic tendencies of deception.

Shame masks were a type of embarrassing punishment device used in Europe during the Middle Ages until 18th century. A "shame mask," intended to silence their wagging tongues and offensive behavior. In a perfect world, it would be used on the cast members of the Bad Girls Club; but unfortunately it was used on women who spoke their minds to their husbands instead of being subservient like the Bible demanded, or on women accused of being witches or gossips; or in the Americas on disobedient slaves or on Quaker women who preached in public. (<https://cvltnation.com/know-your-place-medieval-shame-masks/>)

Leper masks carry a stigma of leprosy which persists not only because of the term's metaphorical connotations, but also because of the disease's complicated history, in which non-leprous populations who confronted the disease ignored medical knowledge and favored a reconstructed medieval view of the disease, judging it to be highly contagious and a result of sin. The modern stigma of one wearing a surgical style mask outside of the normal hospital emergency or surgical room carries a stigma of the wearer being infectious.

Modern day masks have sparked controversy creating anti-mask or anti-masking laws which are legislative or penal initiatives that seek to stop individuals from concealing their faces while protesting, who do so often to not be identified or out of religious practice. This has created a public fear perception of anyone wearing a mask.

Modern NEWS channels often show video footage of masked ISIS fighters and terrorists wearing masks. This reinforces fear of people who conceal their faces.

Masks are often used in Pagan and Wicca rituals and can shift one's perspective from the outer, to the inner. "The creation of internal reality by the mind is confirmed by the consideration of altered states of

consciousness. However, in some religions, masks are seen as evil and are condemned, such as with the rise of Christianity where the Church Councils damned the practice of using masks.

Masks of all sorts can create fear. In a nursing facility with many residents facing memory loss, a friendly face is oftentimes a redirecting strategy. If they can't see a face, their fear may elevate into panic or worse. The same goes for vulnerable people in a public setting.

Mask wearing has become a scarlet letter to the healthy. Healthy people now must prove they are not sick instead of the sick proving they are well. This is akin to proving one's innocents instead of proving one's guilt in a court of law.

While making the argument that wearing surgical masks **over long durations** has not been fully studied or documented, **the potential safety risks are sufficient enough to warrant suspension of all mandated policy** until additional private-peer reviewed studies prove sufficient scientific and psychological safety. Intentional LACK of long-term study would prove to be negligent after the fact of implementing a mandatory masking policy.

But let me be honest...Unfortunately, the mandates really have nothing to do with customer concern or public safety. The act of masking is an ongoing social experiment as compliance records are kept, especially in health care settings, and the data is collected, analyzed and manipulated for government benefit. I think we all have seen undeniable manipulation of numbers regarding this latest pandemic.

The conclusions of the Nuremberg Tribunal unequivocally states that **“voluntary consent of the human subject is absolutely essential” and individuals should “be able to exercise free power of choice, without the intervention of any element of force, fraud, deceit, duress or other ulterior forms of constraint or coercion.” Moreover, people must be provided with “sufficient knowledge and comprehension of the elements of the subject matter involved as to enable them to make an understanding and enlightened decision.”**(Nuremberg Tribunal 1949, pp 181)

Thank you for your time. It's a DO PASS for HB 1323 for me.

Todd Kjelland

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