

# **HB 1323: Limitations on Mask Wearing Requirements**

**NDCA Committee – Feb. 4, 2021**

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee,

HB 1323 addresses a situation that should be made by the individual and not by a state or local elected official, the state, or a political subdivision of the state.

Unfortunately, the evidence for the efficacy of public mask wearing has actually been quite weak which is why those who advocate for masks and lockdowns resort to emotional manipulation to get the public to comply with mask mandates. Blaming fellow citizens for the completely inevitable spread of a highly contagious respiratory virus has led to unintended negative social consequences including the pervasive bullying and lecturing of fellow citizens as well as the argument that we should normalize mask-wearing from this point forward to protect the population from all viruses, not just COVID-19. We are being asked to choose compassion for others over individual liberty, but that is a false dichotomy, and serves only to cause animosity and division amount fellow Americans.

We need to get back to normalcy for the sake of our sanity. This has caused such a divide in our public which is truly quite sad.

Thank you.