

**UNANIMOUS WRITTEN RESOLUTIONS OF
THE NEW CANAAN REPUBLICAN TOWN COMMITTEE**

February 1, 2022

WHEREAS, Governor Ned Lamont declared a public health emergency in the State of Connecticut on March 10, 2020 in order to provide the Governor and other state officials with all authorities necessary to limit the spread of the COVID-19 coronavirus and protect public safety within the State of Connecticut; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to such emergency powers, Government issues eleven Executive Orders (the "Emergency Orders") mandating policies designed to control public behavior in an effort to limit the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, FDA approved vaccines and therapeutic pharmaceutical treatments are now widely available to all citizens above the age of 5 and will be available for those under age 5 by the end of February and have proven effective in preventing severe infection and death from COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, nearly 77% of the population of Connecticut is fully vaccinated and 92% of the population of the state has received at least one vaccine dose; and

WHEREAS, our healthcare system now has the requisite tools to operate safely and effectively and has proven able to manage COVID-19 cases even during periods of increased outbreak; and

WHEREAS, data continues to show that children are at very low risk for severe COVID-19 infection; and

WHEREAS, data has shown a need for a risk vs reward analysis of the policies contained in the Executive Orders for (i) a lack of efficacy of certain policies, and (ii) a negative effect on certain segments on the health and well-being of our community; and

WHEREAS, Article 1, Section 2 of the Constitution of the State of Connecticut expressly provides, "*All political power is inherent in the people, and all free governments are founded on their authority, and instituted for their benefit,*" and

WHEREAS, because the current state of the pandemic does not inhibit state or local government officials from meeting and operating to make policy for their respective constituencies; and

WHEREAS, a Person's right to own decisions regarding the health and the physical well-being of themselves and their children, their right to travel and congregate freely, their right to work and to hold and maintain personal property (including a business) is indelibly inscribed within a Person's right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness guaranteed by the United States Constitution and should not be unduly restricted by the government; and

WHEREAS, our locally elected officials including our own Board of Education and our Town Council are the proper body to determine policy affecting the citizens of our town in order to

ensure that such policies are limited in scope and designed to meet the needs of the citizens of New Canaan; and

WHEREAS, the authority of the local government of New Canaan has been appropriated by the Governor and the state agencies under his control, including but not limited to the State Department of Public Health, and the State Department of Education; and

WHEREAS, the Connecticut General Assembly and the Governor of the State of Connecticut are poised in the next several weeks to permanently abrogate of the authority of local government by codifying eleven Executive Order issues by the Governor under his emergency powers authorization; and

WHEREAS, the New Canaan Republican Town Committee believes it is in the best interest of the citizens of New Canaan for the local government and agencies to design and administer COVID-19 mitigation policies bespoke to the needs of the community; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the New Canaan Republican Town Committee in regular session assembled calls upon the Governor of the State of Connecticut and the Connecticut General Assembly to rescind any executive or legislative authority created under or in connection with the emergency powers granted in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and restore authority over such matters to the local control of the Board of Education and Town Council of the Town of New Canaan and to halt any further action on these matters by the General Assembly or state agencies under the control of the Office of the Governor.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the New Canaan Republican Town Committee supports the restoration of the Board of Education and the Town Council as the policy making body for the Town of New Canaan as it was prior to the COVID-19 pandemic and the issuance of the emergency powers in connection therewith, in order that that policy shall be instituted in accordance with the Constitution of the State of Connecticut and the United States Constitution by and on behalf of the Citizens of New Canaan.