



House of Representatives State of Tennessee

August 11, 2021

The Honorable Bill Lee
Tennessee State Capitol, 1st Floor
Nashville, Tennessee 37243

Dear Governor Lee:

The General Assembly of the State of Tennessee has a constitutional duty to enact general law to shape the options, decisions, and priorities of our local governments, including local boards and other local entities.

We write today to request that you call an extraordinary session of the General Assembly in order for the legislature to convene and address misdirected and mandated responses to COVID-19 by local entities and officials. It is of the utmost urgency to move quickly due to the potential of significant harm to Tennesseans.

We believe there is a need to curtail the overreach by independent health boards and officials, confirm a parent's right to make decisions that impact the mental and physical health of their children, provide support and direction to schools to ensure educators are properly compensated for COVID-19 leave, and protect all Tennesseans from misdirected mandates designed to limit their ability to make their own decisions.

The six independent health boards, along with unelected officials, have made and will continue to make decisions that stifle access to educational opportunities for our children and infringe on their freedoms and liberty. Some of these mandates have been accompanied by threats of reckless endangerment, school closure, and segregating students based on vaccination status.

We believe there is much debate and action needed around the appropriate balance of parents' right to make healthcare decisions for their children and the government's ability to mandate healthcare decisions upon them. Finally, in addition to the debate needed around continued COVID-19 mandates, the General Assembly needs to evaluate the ongoing discrimination of Tennesseans by prohibiting their access to buildings due only to their vaccination status.

Therefore, we request that you, by virtue of the power and authority vested in your office pursuant to Article III, Section 9 of the Tennessee Constitution, call the One Hundred and Twelfth General Assembly of the State of Tennessee to convene in extraordinary session for the purposes stated above as well as addressing other issues related to COVID-19. We look forward to working with you to pass meaningful legislation so that Tennessee children, families, and businesses can continue to thrive.



Speaker Cameron Sexton



Speaker Pro Tempore Pat Marsh



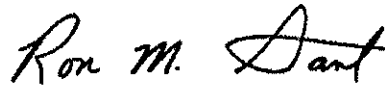
Deputy Speaker Curtis Johnson



Leader William Lamberth



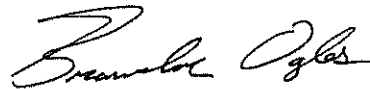
Chairman Jeremy Faison



Assistant Majority Leader Ron Gant



Majority Whip Johnny Garrett



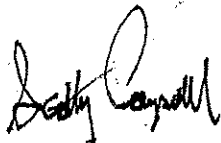
Caucus Vice Chair Brandon Ogles



Floor Leader Paul Sherrell



Treasurer Mark Cochran



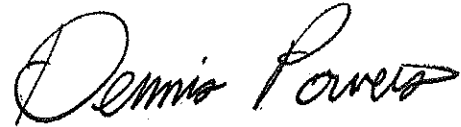
Freshman Leader Scotty Campbell



Secretary Michele Carringer



Representative Debra Moody



Representative Dennis Powers



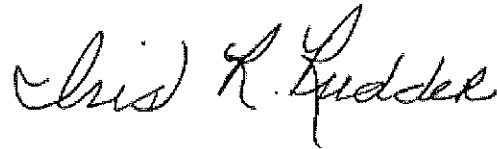
Representative Esther Helton



Representative Gary Hicks



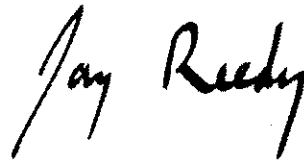
Representative Glen Casada



Representative Iris Rudder



Representative Jason Zachary



Representative Jay Reedy



Representative Jerome Moon



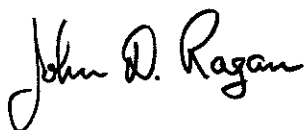
Representative Jerry Sexton



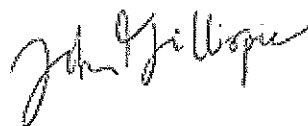
Representative John Crawford



Representative John Holsclaw



Representative John Ragan



Representative John Gillespie



Representative Kelly Keisling



Representative Kent Calfee



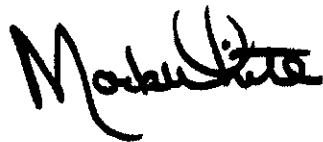
Representative Kevin Vaughan



Representative Kirk Haston



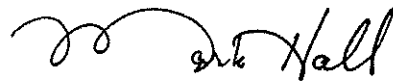
Representative Lowell Russell



Representative Mark White



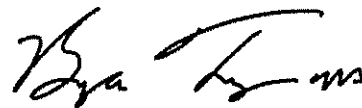
Representative Bruce Griffey



Representative Mark Hall



Representative Mary Littleton



Representative Bryan Terry



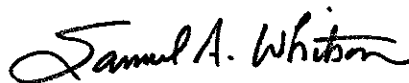
Representative Joan Carter



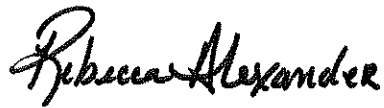
Representative Mike Sparks



Representative Bud Hulsey



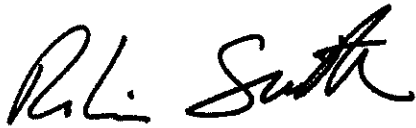
Representative Sam Whitson



Representative Rebecca Alexander



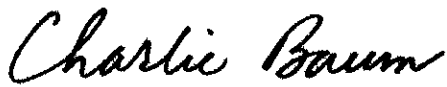
Representative Rick Eldridge



Representative Robin Smith



Representative Ron Travis



Representative Charlie Baum




Representative Rush Bricken



Representative Rusty Grills



Representative Ryan Williams



Representative Sabi Kumar



Representative Scott Cepicky



Representative Patsy Hazlewood



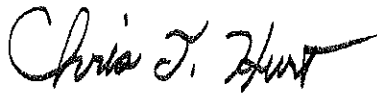
Representative Susan Lynn



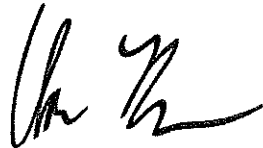
Representative Andrew Farmer



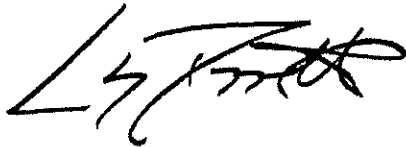
Representative Chris Todd



Representative Chris Hurt



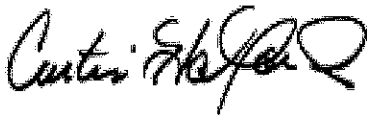
Representative Clark Boyd



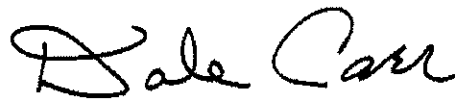
Representative Clay Doggett



Representative Bob Ramsey



Representative Curtis Halford



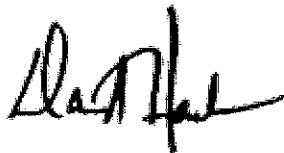
Representative Dale Carr



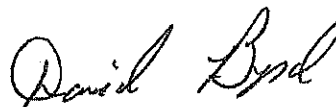
Representative Dan Howell



Representative Dave Wright



Representative David Hawk



Representative David Byrd




Representative Tandy Darby



Representative Terri Lynn Weaver



Representative Tim Hicks



Representative Tim Rudd



Representative Todd Warner



Representative Tom Leatherwood



Representative Eddie Mannis



Representative Michael Curcio



Representative Justin Lafferty