

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 189

BY REPRESENTATIVE HODGES

VACCINES/VACCINATION: Urges and requests local governments to stop requiring proof of medical status as a condition for participation in constitutionally protected activities

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request local governments in this state to stop requiring proof of medical status
3 as a condition for participation in constitutionally protected activities.

4 WHEREAS, clarity of leadership and uniformity in communication are essential
5 elements of an effective response to a public health emergency; and

6 WHEREAS, it is Louisiana's policy that the state alone may regulate the disclosure
7 of confidential medical records as long as such disclosure is not in violation of the
8 Constitution of Louisiana or the Constitution of the United States of America; and

9 WHEREAS, this policy provision does not entrust such authority to the local
10 government; and

11 WHEREAS, to the contrary, local governments in Louisiana have responded to the
12 public health emergency caused by the COVID-19 pandemic with various, conflicting health
13 status disclosure requirements; and

14 WHEREAS, local governments have responded to the pandemic with emergency
15 orders and regulations that require proof of vaccination against the COVID-19 virus; and

16 WHEREAS, these vaccination requirements mandated by local governments have
17 caused many schools, businesses, and other facilities used by the public to require proof of
18 vaccination; and

19 WHEREAS, in some instances, failure to show proof of vaccination has resulted in
20 the refusal of service, denial of entry, and disqualification from participation; and

1 WHEREAS, it is the fundamental right of the people to peaceably assemble, petition
2 the government for a redress of grievances, and participate in commerce; and

3 WHEREAS, no parish or municipal government should require a person to share his
4 medical status, either directly or indirectly, as a condition of participating in a
5 constitutionally protected activity; and

6 WHEREAS, all people have a right to human dignity; and

7 WHEREAS, denying access, refusing service, or disqualifying people from
8 participation based on their immune system strips them of their human dignity; and

9 WHEREAS, people have the freedom to express their religious beliefs and enjoy
10 religious and conscientious freedoms; and

11 WHEREAS, the vaccination requirement policies that certain local governments have
12 enforced do not accommodate people with strongly held religious beliefs; and

13 WHEREAS, people have a right to privacy that includes confidentiality with regard
14 to medical information, and requiring proof of vaccination ignores the right to medical
15 privacy; and

16 WHEREAS, these vaccination requirement policies do not acknowledge the "right
17 to refuse" experimental treatment and disregard the constitution; and

18 WHEREAS, aside from stripping away people's rights and liberties, these vaccination
19 requirement policies promote discrimination and segregation in employment, commerce,
20 education, and health care; and

21 WHEREAS, as it relates to commerce and employment, the vaccination requirements
22 that local governments have imposed create economic concerns; and

23 WHEREAS, these vaccination requirements are hurting local economies, negatively
24 impacting this state and surrounding areas; and

25 WHEREAS, general welfare is not of more importance than individual liberty; and

26 WHEREAS, Jakub Bozydar Wisniewski once said, "'For the greater good': the phrase
27 that always precedes the greatest evil"; and

28 WHEREAS, local governments imposing these vaccination requirements are not only
29 disregarding state policies but are also violating the individual liberties of the people of
30 Louisiana in favor of the greater good.

1 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
2 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request local governments in this state to stop
3 requiring proof of medical status as a condition for participation in constitutionally protected
4 activities.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HR 189 Original

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Hodges

Urges local governments in this state to stop requiring proof of medical status as a condition for participation in constitutionally protected activities.