

CONCERNED
WOMEN *for* AMERICA
OF LOUISIANA

September 25, 2024

House Select Committee on Homeland Security
Statement in Support of Response to HR 133

Laura Huber, State Director, Concerned Women for America of Louisiana

Members of the Louisiana House Select Committee on Homeland Security.

As the nation's largest public policy women's organization in the nation and our state, CWA of Louisiana supports [HR133](#) that will begin the review process of Louisiana state government actions in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Sadly, the COVID-19 period of American history will be studied for generations. Significant politicization of the issue and how it was used to advance personal ambitions in egregious ways is a much-discussed topic.

The whole thing is maddening. There was the use of masks and the tightening of hospital and even funeral visits. There was, of course, the COVID shot and all the controversies surrounding that. Also, the massive lockdowns that were so harmful, especially to our children, in terms of unnecessary school closures that have dramatically impacted their lives and learning skills.

The question is not, why did the government push all this — others are focusing on that. Instead, why did we allow it? Why would Americans go along with the farce and the drastic upending of our lives in the face of evidence strongly suggesting it was unnecessary?

Fear is a significant contributor — fear and manipulation. Fear, insecurity, and perceived need shake us to the core as human beings and, if we are not careful, these times may push us to be willing to enter into oppressive agreements that will ultimately enslave us. It's part of the human condition that men love power and find it difficult to resist overreach. That is why, now more than ever, we must cling to the principles of liberty embodied in our Constitution. In times of crisis, the overextended hand of [the](#) nanny state makes citizens feel safe, but that same power can easily morph into a fist.²²

"We the people" must vigilantly guard against the attacks that inevitably came with the challenge of Covid-19.

The tension between the Executive, Legislative, and Judicial branches, between the states and federal government, is by design. It is supposed to be challenging to "get things done" in government. Sure, crises require sacrifices, but we must be careful to preserve the structure that protects our liberties in the long run.

Americans do not lose constitutional rights during crises, and we must take notice of the deeper issues at stake here. We must take note and demand much better from our public officials. State executives would be wise to take a step back and consider the long-term implications of the actions they are taking. They must preserve and respect the constitutional structure that guards our liberty.

The American spirit in 2020 and moving forward today still shouts, "Give me liberty, or give me death!" as Patrick Henry did in 1775. No exception for COVID-19 or any other future pandemics.