



**County Commissioners**

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October 7, 2021

Alison V. Beam  
Acting Secretary of Health  
625 Forster Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Acting Secretary Beam:

At one of our public meetings this week a local elected official read to the Board of Commissioners the following statement from a letter your office sent out directly to students in Lancaster County as young as 10 years old, under your signature. We quote:

“You must immediately adhere to this quarantine directive and all disease control measures included in it. If you do not cooperate with this directive, the Secretary of Health may petition a court to **have you confined to an appropriate place chosen by the Department** to make certain you are not able to infect the public, and to make certain that you receive proper care. **You will be kept there until the Department determines it can release you from quarantine. Law enforcement may be called upon, to the extent necessary, to ensure your compliance with this directive.**” [Emphasis added]

Our question is – what were you thinking?

When this astounding statement was read, our entire Board of Commissioners, including two Republicans and a Democrat, and those in the public, agreed that such a letter should never be sent to anyone, much less a child in America.

Threatening anyone, let alone children, with the use of law enforcement to relocate them for noncompliance with a bureaucratic directive, is something right out of history books from oppressive regimes and police states. Are you not acquainted with the Constitutions of the United States and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania?

Thankfully, our District Attorney would never allow such threats to weaponize local law enforcement to happen here in Lancaster County. Nevertheless, even under the low standards set by the Wolf administration, it was obviously egregious for your department to send something like this in an attempt to scare little children into submission.

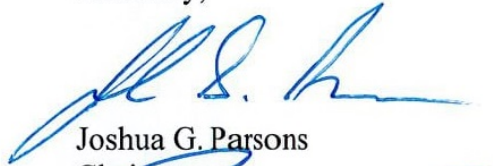


Lastly, our constituents have asked, given the statements in the letter, whether or not the Department of Health has locations established for the forced relocation of non-compliant children?

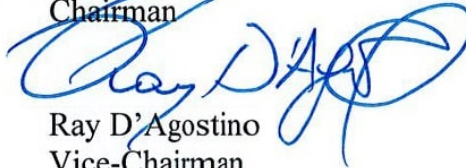
In normal times we would feel rather silly asking such a question. But given the approaches the Administration, including your office, have taken to seek compliance with ever changing dictates, these are obviously not normal times.

Regardless, please cease threatening and bullying children in Lancaster County.

Sincerely,



Joshua G. Parsons  
Chairman



Ray D'Agostino  
Vice-Chairman