

June 17, 2020

To: Donald Bolduc; Bryant “Corky” Messner

CC: Josh McElveen, Senior Advisor for Don Bolduc; Mike Biundo, Senior Advisor for Corky Messner

RE: Your public opposition to life-saving vaccinations

As doctors, researchers, public health officials and New Hampshire residents, we are writing with sincere urgency to ask that you immediately stop spreading conspiracy theories about vaccinations and science surrounding COVID-19. As aspiring public servants, you must recognize that this willful spread of disinformation could get people killed.

You are both highly visible as candidates for the U.S. Senate, making your anti-vaccination positions especially dangerous. In recent weeks you both have pushed harmful conspiracy theories that could undermine the public health response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Mr. Messner, you have voiced your opposition to mandatory vaccines on numerous occasions, raising doubt about their efficacy and safety. Mr. Bolduc, you have similarly voiced opposition to life-saving mandatory vaccines and claimed, without evidence, they could somehow harm children, who are often the most vulnerable to deadly diseases if they are not vaccinated. To suggest that health experts are using vaccines to do anything other than cure and prevent disease is incredibly irresponsible.

Uninformed opposition to vaccines is dangerous at any time, but especially as we confront the COVID-19 pandemic. While there is no vaccine yet, we know that widespread vaccination—meaning [60 to 80](#) percent of the world—would be necessary to achieve herd immunity and allow us to safely resume daily life without fear of contagion. With candidates like you two fear-mongering about vaccines and spreading false conspiracy theories, widespread vaccination in our communities becomes much less likely, endangering our most at-risk populations. According to [the CDC](#), “vaccination is a critical step in protecting those that are most vulnerable to illness – infants and young children, the elderly, and those with chronic conditions and weakened immune systems.”

In the strongest terms, we encourage you to stop spreading anti-vaccine propaganda and start thinking seriously about people’s health.

Sincerely,

Dr. Tessa Lafortune-Greenberg, Concord
Dr. Gary Woods, State Representative, Bow
Dr. Chelsey Lewis, Manchester
Dr. Charles Blitzer, Durham
Dr. Chris Peterson, Derry