Masking is one of the few and best ways disabled, immunocompromised, and other chronically ill people can safely participate in society, which is already difficult enough for them. This extends to anyone in their households and care team.

The Black community is also at higher risk for long COVID and adverse health outcomes. This bill is supposed to protect them from harassment but only does that by increasing their risk of illness when they already deal with health inequality.

This bill would require people to somehow prove they have an exemption to wear a mask. If you're masking for health reasons, that likely means having to share/prove private medical information on demand. Which you shouldn't have to do to go grocery shopping, for example.

We're seeing a large spike in COVID, flu, RSV, and other communicable diseases. Preventing masking puts everyone at higher risk for catching these diseases. In addition to increased suffering, more sick people harms our state economy when we're already taking a hit from the federal government chaos. I am not in favor of this bill for the above reasons.