**Message from Children’s Health Defense Chairman Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.**

Dear Friends Outraged by New York’s Repeal of the Religious Exemption Right:

 On Thursday, June 13, without even a hearing, the New York State legislature repealed the right to religious exemption from vaccination, and Governor Cuomo signed the measure into law, calling the situation “a public health emergency.” In thirty days, all partially and unvaccinated children will be official second-class citizens, unable to attend any school, public or private, or any camp.

This extraordinary, unprecedented action is a gross violation of children’s and families’ rights to religion, an education, parenting according to one’s conscience, and informed and voluntary consent to medical procedures. While New York State has an unquestionable interest in public health, that interest may not overwhelm all other fundamental rights. Legislation affecting constitutional rights must be carefully and thoughtfully balanced, something that was impossible in the legislature’s and Governor’s rush to ram through the repeal.

Children’s Health Defense (CHD) has been a leading advocate for children’s health and welfare for some time. It has devoted significant attention to the need for safer vaccines, as Congress called for in 1986 when it granted the pharmaceutical industry virtually blanket liability protection from vaccine injury. CHD supported intensive work to educate New York legislators on the need to preserve the religious exemption. Together with Robert Krakow and Patricia Finn, I represented plaintiffs in Brooklyn to challenge a mandate overriding lawful religious exemptions.

I will challenge this repeal legislation in court. I am assembling a team of top flight attorneys to challenge this ill-conceived law on multiple grounds. While it is premature to spell out the CHD plan of attack, please know that I will help to bring the best legal talent available anywhere to overturn this unjust law.

You can help. Please donate money to CHD to challenge the NYS repeal. Doing so is not only essential for the 26,000 children in New York affected by this draconian measure, it is critical for the country. With California and New York having enacted harsh, discriminatory and punitive laws, it is truly just a question of time before other states take a page out of New York’s book to ram through rights-stripping laws. We can fight this and win, but we need your help.

 Thank you for your generosity.



**HOW TO DONATE:**

Thank you for your interest in donating to Children’s Health Defense, a 501(c) (3) charitable,

non-profit organization. Our tax ID is 26-0388604.

1.**Donate online** at <https://childrenshealthdefense.org/about-us/donate/> with Paypal or credit card.

2. **Mail a check** to:

Children’s Health Defense

1227 N Peachtree Pkwy, Suite #202

Peachtree City, GA 30269

3. **Authorize a wire transfer** to the following bank account:

Children’s Health Defense

Wells Fargo

Routing number: 021200025

Account Number: 1745955490

4. **Open a Donor Advised Fund**.

Suggested Companies to call:

Fidelity Charitable: (800) 262-6039

National Philanthropic Trust: (888) 878-7900

Both companies assure privacy and anonymity for clients.