



Action Alert #7: Should Schools be Responsible to Avoid Exposure to COVID-19? Contact your Representative

June 19, 2020



Should schools be immune from liability (i.e., they cannot be held responsible) related to COVID-19 sickness and death of students, even if the school does not follow COVID-19 procedures? Let your State Representative hear from you!

On 6/17/2020, the House Civil Law & Procedure passed [House Bill 59 \(HB59\)](#) by Representative Buddy Mincey which seeks to provide public school systems immunity from liability during declared states of emergency. HB59 now moves to the House Floor for debate.

Specifically, HB59:

- Provides for immunity from civil liability from damages resulting from exposure to infectious disease or acts undertaken in an effort to respond to a declared state of emergency or public health emergency related to an infectious disease.
- Prohibits causes of action related to contraction of an infectious disease at a public school facility, bus, or event based on the actions or failure to act of school agents.

Unlike a law ([Act 362](#)) just passed during the 2020 Regular Legislative Session, HB59 does not indicate a school would have to comply with COVID-19 procedures established by federal, state, or local governing agencies to be immune from liability.

People with developmental disabilities, including those younger than 17 years old, are more at risk of complications, even death, due to COVID-19, than people without developmental disabilities. [Click here to read the latest research.](#)

Louisiana law requires school-aged children to attend school.

If this issue is important to you or someone you know, **NOW** is the time to take action!

How to Take Action

1. **Email or call** your State Representative by Monday, June 22, 2020!

- Don't know who your Representative is? [Click here](#).

Share your personal story and explain how important following COVID-19 procedures are to the health and safety of your child.

You Can Watch Committee Meetings Online

You can watch meetings of the legislature live from the [legislature's website](#). When the meeting is in progress, click the camera icon to access the broadcast. You can also view upcoming schedules for the House and Senate.

Confirm Your Action

- Notify your [LaCAN Leader](#) to confirm your action.
- Why confirm your action? This helps the Council know how effective we are reaching you with important information and engaging members across our state in advocacy for systems change.

Contact Us

LaCAN is an initiative of the LA Developmental Disabilities Council. If there are any questions about the information in this email, contact the Council by replying to this email, or calling the toll free number listed below:

phone: 1-800-450-8108

email: info@laddc.org

website: www.lacanadvocates.org

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