

**RESOLUTION NO. 1506
CITY OF PRINEVILLE, OREGON**

**A RESOLUTION URGING THE OREGON LEGISLATURE AND GOVERNOR TO TAKE
ACTIONS TO PROTECT OREGONIANS' RIGHT TO MAKE THEIR OWN HEALTH AND
MEDICAL DECISIONS**

Whereas, in a free society, the integrity of personal liberty is firmly recognized and protected, even during times of exigency or emergency, such as the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic; and

Whereas, the Oregon Constitution declares, "All men, when they form a social compact are equal in right; that all power is inherent in the people, and all free governments are founded on their authority and instituted for their peace, safety, and happiness;" and

Whereas, the Universal Declaration on Bioethics and Human Rights, adopted by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), states, "Any preventive, diagnostic and therapeutic medical intervention is only to be carried out with the prior, free and informed consent of the person concerned based on adequate information. The consent should, where appropriate, be express and may be withdrawn by the person concerned at any time and for any reason without disadvantage or prejudice;" and

Whereas, the United States Supreme Court reminds us that "[n]o right is held more sacred, or is more carefully guarded, by the common law, than the right of every individual to the possession and control of his own person, free from all restraint or interference of others, unless by clear and unquestionable authority of law," and that courts have held that a competent person's right to refuse unwanted medical treatment is both a constitutional and common law right; and

Whereas, the Ninth Amendment to the United States Constitution clarifies and memorializes, "The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people;" and

Whereas, the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution protects United States citizens, as "[n]o State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws;" and

Whereas, the United States Supreme Court has reminded us that "[t]he Constitution was adopted in a period of grave emergency. Its grants of power to the federal government and its limitations of the power of the States were determined in the light of emergency, and they are not altered by emergency;" and

Whereas, the critical events of the year 2020 have resulted in citizens becoming concerned about Oregon laws and emergency orders that could infringe upon the state and federal constitutional and inalienable rights of citizens to enjoy their life and liberty, to acquire, possess, and protect property, and to pursue and obtain their own safety, happiness, and privacy, and could infringe upon international human rights and principles that recognize the inherent dignity and the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family, requiring that those rights be protected by the rule of law; and

Whereas, Oregon Executive Order 21-29, requiring COVID-19 vaccinations for Oregon executive branch employees, Oregon Administrative Rule 333-019-1010, requiring COVID-19 vaccinations for health providers and healthcare staff in healthcare settings, and Oregon Administrative

Rule 333-019-1030, requiring COVID-19 vaccinations for teachers and school staff, could infringe upon the right to consent or not consent and allows the government to take possession or control of the body of any living person; and

Whereas, support for, and promotion of, medical, immunity, or vaccine passports, or other document requirements imposed by governments, businesses, or other entities, could lead to people sharing their private medical information unwillingly in order to participate in everyday life, commerce, education, employment, entertainment, gatherings, or travel; and

Whereas, experts from the federal government and private industry were leveraged to develop vaccines quickly and those vaccines have been made widely available for those who choose to use them; and

Whereas, the inflexible implementation of “one-size-fits-all” medical requirements places a disproportionate and unequal risk burden on those individuals who are genetically, otherwise biologically, or environmentally at higher risk for suffering harm from medical interventions.

NOW, THEREFORE, the City of Prineville resolves and declares the following:

1. That the City Council of Prineville urges the Oregon Legislature and Governor to take actions to protect Oregonians’ right to make their own health and medical decisions, as citizens should always be given the opportunity to decide to consent, or not to consent, to medical treatments or other interventions without any element of force, fraud, deceit, duress, coercion, undue influence, or disadvantage.
2. That the City Council urges the Oregon Legislature and Governor to amend rules and regulations mandating COVID-19 vaccinations shall be carried out with the voluntary and informed consent of an individual or their guardian.

Approved by the City Council this 14th day of September, 2021.



Rodney J. Beebe, Mayor

ATTEST:



Lisa Morgan, City Recorder