

**Lisa Cataldi**

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**From:** Lena Cirignotta <lenacirignotta@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 15, 2020 1:34 PM  
**Subject:** Testimony regarding COVID-19 Response Updates and Pandemic Planning hearing today, 6/15/20 in the House Lounge

**Maddalena Cirignotta**

**347-860-0789**

**Testimony regarding COVID-19 Response Updates and Pandemic Planning**

**DATE:** Monday, June 15, 2020

**TIME:** 4.00 PM- 5.30 PM

**PLACE:** House Lounge - State House

<http://status.rilin.state.ri.us/documents/agenda-16910.pdf>

Esteemed lawmakers and HEW committee members,

I'm writing in hopes that you will respond to grave concerns regarding future Covid-19 vaccines.

The 2005 PREP Act (Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act) along with a Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Declaration specific to COVID-19 published in the Federal Register on February 4, 2020, protect manufacturers of medical “countermeasures”—including vaccines, medications, medical devices and other products—from the risk of damages in the event of a declared public health emergency such as the currently declared coronavirus pandemic. The tort immunity described under the COVID-19 Declaration pertains to *“any claim of loss caused by, arising out of, relating to, or resulting from the manufacture, distribution, administration, or use of medical countermeasures . . . except for claims involving ‘willful misconduct’ as defined in the PREP Act.”*

**This means that if someone is injured by a Covid-19 vaccine or any Covid-19 therapeutic of any kind, consumers will NOT be able to sue for injury. Why is our government disempowering consumers and protecting manufactures?**

**Disempowering consumers inherently makes a product less safe. Period.**

**How will you protect consumers if they are injured by a Covid-19 vaccine or any other Covid-19 therapeutic? Will you ensure that consumers are not FORCED to accept a liability free, for profit product in order to participate in society?**

**Respectfully yours,**

**Maddalena Cirignotta**