

PRESS RELEASE



OKLAHOMA COUNTY
REPUBLICAN PARTY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SB658

Thursday, August 12th, the Oklahoma State Medical Association (OSMA) [filed a lawsuit in Oklahoma County District Court](#) to overturn SB658 - [the bill prohibiting mask mandates](#) in public schools – passed during 2021's legislative session.

Though the OSMA named the State and Governor as their plaintiffs in the suit, they should have sued "Oklahoma Parents" instead.

Why?

[Many Oklahoma parents](#) – who don't want their children parented by the state - worked diligently with legislators to create and pass SB658, upholding their right to protect their children from overzealous public school mask mandates.

Fortunately for parents, [THE OKLAHOMA PARENT'S BILL OF RIGHTS](#) (OPBOR) -passed in 2015 - undermines the OSMA's case. It says – in part:

All parental rights are reserved to a parent of a minor child without obstruction or interference from this state, any political subdivision of this state, any other governmental entity or any other institution...

What about this statement is vague?

How does it indicate that the OSMA – or [Oklahoma City Public Schools](#), or [Santa Fe South High School](#) - has standing to overturn SB658? The OPBOR came before SB658 and simply restates rights parents already have according to [Natural Law](#).

The OSMA - and [the Democrats](#) who back them - must be made to answer the following questions before disputing Oklahoma parental rights with that much legal precedence:

1. How do schools explain to their students that, while the school can flaunt state law, students can't act up in class – or rob the office? How does blatant repudiation of the law educate students in moral imperative? Shouldn't that be part of their job?
2. Where does SB658 PREVENT any parent from masking their child at school if they so choose? If masks are protective against COVID-19 - or any other virus – shouldn't a masked child be protected throughout the school day even if others aren't?
3. What if the state forced parents TO PREVENT their child from wearing a mask at school? If that statement seems irrational, doesn't that make any argument to overturn SB658 also irrational?

Parents, please contact Governor Stitt (405-521-2342, or send him an [email here](#)) and the Attorney General's office (405-521-3921). Ask that they continue to protect parental rights by upholding SB658 and the Oklahoma Parent's Bill of Rights as written.

For Freedom,
Ken Warner, Chair
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