

1st March 2022

Committee Secretary,
Community Support and Services Committee,
Parliament House,
George Street,
BRISBANE. QLD 4740

Subject: Submission on Extension of State of Emergency Powers to 31st October 2022

Thank you for considering this submission.

This email is written to voice my **vehement opposition** to an extension of the Qld Public Health and Other Legislation (Extension of Expiring Provisions) Act or any introduced amendments in any proposed Bills to allow extension of emergency Public Health powers to the 31st of October 2022 tabled this week or in the future. I also ask you to oppose as part of the above proposed Bill the provision of the required Human Rights Certificate to CHO Gerrard, all of which was tabled and requested by Mrs D'Ath in sittings on 22nd February 2022. I implore you to vote **NO** as a member of the parliamentary oversight committee.

Queensland, as a state, is not in a health-based emergency. By CHO Gerrard's admission, the peak has passed. Hospitals are no longer under strain (other than those caused by lack of staff due to unvaccinated health professionals being forced to resign or retrenched due to vaccine mandates or lack of funding from Qld Labor), and we are now in a more endemic period, meaning we need to normalise to live with Covid 19.

How does extending a state of emergency dependent Bill like this align with these statements or those of Mrs D'Ath herself? She announced easing restrictions to normalise Queenslanders' lives while extending this Bill is the opposite of normalising our state's governing structure. Extending the Act mentioned above in this Bill continues to remove Queenslanders' fundamental Human Rights, a norm within a democratic state. Why extend it?

Scientific studies have shown that ***Omicron's hyper-transmissibility does not stem from large amounts of the virus being spread from infected people. Instead, its lightning-fast spread is attributed to its ability to evade SAR-coV-2 immunity caused by vaccination or past infection***¹. Further studies prove that previous infection provides longer lasting immunity and protection than vaccination, which with all encompassing spread of Omicron throughout Queensland ensures immunity for the public ^{2,3,4} nullifying any viral loads arguments as justification for mandating vaccination or Queensland being declared to be still in a state of emergency.

Coercive employment vaccine mandates included in this Bill are:

1. removing Queenslanders' human right to provide food and shelter for their families through loss of employment
2. eliminating access to health care
3. destroying our small businesses
4. placing unnecessary extreme stress on families and individuals when they are retrenched and unnecessary mental anguish on Queensland children
5. leading to subpar provision of health care in hospitals and communities, increasing deaths due to cancellation of life-saving treatments such as chemo and radiation due to loss of qualified health practitioners or staff to be present to provide the needed care physically
6. leading to subpar education for Queensland children due to loss of highly skilled educators and added pressures to student and graduate teachers being thrown in to fill the gaps without proper training, experience or mentors for support
7. extreme burnout within the remaining staff of emergency and health care sectors (especially student nurses, student paramedics and allied health students who have been thrown in without required experience, training, mentors while being expected to work outside their usual scope of practice to close the staffing gaps) due to lack of staffing caused by the government-mandated retrenchment of unvaccinated trained health professionals.

Discrimination against the unvaccinated is legalised through Health Directives mandated through the aforementioned Acts powers. Qld Labor now wants to extend the above Act further to continue to allow one person, the CHO, to overwrite all Queenslanders' human rights for a virus that is subsiding quicker than any of the government's computer modelling predicted. Why the extension request?

Australian Human Rights Commission has stated its increasing concerns regarding lack of transparency and scrutiny of Bills such as this one before their approval and lack of scientific evidence being provided to justify the sacrificing of all human rights that Bills such as the above enact.

<https://humanrights.gov.au/about/covid19-and-human-rights/what-commissions-view-limiting-human-rights-during-covid-19>

Queensland Human Rights Commission has opposed previous extensions to this Bill due to risk vs benefit basis, transparency and erosion of human rights, which have been ignored.

<https://www.qhrc.qld.gov.au/your-rights/covid-19-and-human-rights/what-is-the-commission-doing>

Amnesty International Australia advocates that vaccine mandates legalised through this Bill infringe on fundamental human rights and that risk vs benefit does not justify mandating vaccines.

<https://www.amnesty.org.au/covid-19-human-rights-and-vaccination/>

I ask that if you decide to vote yes to approve this extension, please, by return email, supply scientific justification for doing so based on Queensland's current case, death and hospitalisation numbers and qualify why you believe Queensland is in a state of emergency.

Social, economic, and community welfare is being severely negatively impacted due to the health directives legalised through this Act and are leading to monumentally higher stressors and loss of financial security for Queenslanders than any concerns regarding or health impacts caused by Omicron.

Once again, I implore you to speak for the desperate voiceless Queenslanders and vote **NO** to this Bill being extended to 31st October 2022 and allow it to expire in April 2022, which will reinstate us to being a democratically run state of Australia.

Kind regards,

Lorelle Beckmann

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¹ <https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-022-00129-z>

² <https://www.medrxiv.org/content/10.1101/2021.08.24.21262415v1>

³ <https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMc2200133>

⁴ Please take the time to view.

<https://youtu.be/q0sA3CAPcl8>