

From: [Simon Clay](#)
To: [Community Support and Services Committee](#)
Subject: Public Health and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2022
Date: Thursday, 3 March 2022 11:15:00 AM

Attn: Committee Secretary, Community Support Services Committee

RE: Extension to Emergency Powers

Dear Committee Secretary

I contact you today to provide a submission to consider in relation to proposed extension of the emergency powers of the Queensland Government.

It is now over 2 years that the Queensland people have lived under the directions and decisions of the CHO. Whilst it may have been important during the start and peak of the pandemic, there is now no longer any emergency.

The latest data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics clearly indicates that COVID-19 is not the grave danger any longer, if at any point, that the government has made it out to be. <https://www.abs.gov.au/articles/covid-19-mortality-australia>

The data shows that since the start of the pandemic through to 31 January 2022, that of the 2556 deaths reported with COVID-19 on the death certificate, that only 8.6%, or 220, of those deaths had COVID-19 reported alone on the death certificate. This shows that COVID-19 tragically took the lives of only 220 perfectly healthy people, with no other health problems. Far from a grave national or state emergency that Australians have been forced to live in fear under for 2 years.

I also contend that despite the Queensland State government having the use of emergency powers since the start of 2020, this government did not make the best use of these powers or the time available to them. We were told that Queenslanders needed to live under restrictions to curtail the spread of the virus until a point where enough people were vaccinated to ensure that our hospitals were not overrun once the virus entered Queensland. Once the borders opened up when 80% of Queenslanders were fully vaccinated, our politicians repeatedly stressed in the media that our hospitals were being overwhelmed. So please explain, what did the government do to prepare our health system in the almost 2 years since the beginning of the pandemic?

I DO NOT support the passing of Public Health and Other Legislation (Extension of Expiring Provisions) Amendment Bill 2022. I DO NOT support the extension of the emergency powers.

It is time that the Queensland State Government give the Queensland Community its autonomy to live their own lives again. History shows us, without exception, that if any government chooses to take the power from the people and hold onto it for too long, it does not end well for that government.

I respectfully submit this for your consideration.

Regards

Simon Clay

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