

3 March 2022

Committee Secretary  
Community Support and Services Committee  
Email: [cssc@parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto:cssc@parliament.qld.gov.au)

Dear Committee Secretary,

**RE: PUBLIC HEALTH AND OTHER LEGISLATION (EXTENSION OF EXPIRING PROVISIONS) AMENDMENT BILL 2022 (BILL)**

I wish to formally advise that I **DO NOT** support the Bill or the extension of the state of emergency.

Since 29 January 2020 Queensland has been 'living' under a state of emergency (SOE). During these past two years we have been stripped of our individual freedoms, our right for open public discourse and honest democratic processes. The advice from our state government has continually changed and contradicted itself, and the goalposts with which we strive towards, are constantly being shifted. Get vaccinated, get boosted, wear a mask, only wear a mask indoors, there is no need for masks, social distance, only have family members in your house, have up to 20 individuals in your house, you must sit to drink and eat, you can stand up to eat and drink, only leave your house for exercise, you can return to work and school. The list is endless and ever changing.

Commencing on December 17, 2021, the vaccine mandate was implemented when we had recorded 2,227 cases of COVID. At this same time, we had achieved a vaccination rate of 83.6% in Queensland which was above our initial target of 80%. And yet, just over two months later, with a fully vaccinated population of 90.6%, COVID cases had jumped to 532,227. Despite the fact that the number of unvaccinated people in QLD has dropped to 9.4% since the mandate was introduced, we have still recorded 530,000 new cases during this same time period. Unvaccinated citizens have been shunned from society, been severely restricted in their movements and lost their employment, yet COVID has continued to rapidly spread throughout the state. It is abundantly clear that this virus is spread primarily by those who are vaccinated, and that the virus does not discriminate between those who are vaccinated and those who are not.

The vaccine mandate should never have been introduced. It has done nothing to ease this supposed state of emergency. Instead, it has served to increase division and segregation, decimate small businesses, negatively impact our economy, significantly increase mental health concerns <sup>(1)</sup> and suicide rates, and cement distrust in our government and public institutions. The data clearly shows that rather than stopping the spread of COVID throughout QLD, the mandate has in fact worsened our state's health and education sectors. Highly trained, specialised, and experienced health workers, teachers, aged care and home care service staff have been stood down from their employment. The repercussions on our children, our sick, elderly, and disabled citizens has been devastating.

As stated by Stephen Andrew, Queensland MP for Mirani, when discussing the SOE:

*"Since then, we have seen our economy smashed, small businesses decimated, hundreds of thousands of jobs lost and people's lives turned upside down. All sacrificed on the altar of "public safety" – along with free speech, the right to peaceful assembly, the right to work, freedom of conscience, bodily autonomy, government transparency and public trust in our institutions. Even worse, has been the fundamental change in our relations with each other, a change clouded by suspicion and distrust."*<sup>(2)</sup>

A blatant admission from the scientific community proves that they had every intention of generating irrational fear through their inflated and inaccurate predictions. *"Initial projections built worst-case scenarios that would never happen as a means of spurring leadership into action."*<sup>(3)</sup> This inaccurate representation of numbers has continued with the over reporting of COVID case numbers and death tolls. Information easily accessible on the ABS website indicates that during the 22 months of COVID, 273,901 Australians have died, however, only 2,639 of these

(1) <https://documents.parliament.qld.gov.au/committees/HEC/2020/PublicHealth2020/trns-22Jan2021-PH.pdf>

(2) <https://www.facebook.com/StephenAndrewMP>

(3) [https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanmic/article/PIIS2666-5247\(21\)00029-X/fulltext4](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanmic/article/PIIS2666-5247(21)00029-X/fulltext4)

(4) <https://archive.is/jwBRK>

deaths were COVID related. Further data shows that of these 2,639 deaths, 92% of these individuals had three serious underlying health conditions. The COVID related death figures represent less than 1% of the total of deaths in Australia over the past 22 months. Both the TGA and CDC have admitted the gross over reporting of COVID deaths and have released data indicating that only 8.6% and 6%, respectively, of COVID-19 deaths could be solely attributed to the Virus. (4) The inflated and over reporting of COVID deaths has served only to perpetuate fear and panic and to keep people isolated and unaware of pertinent truths such as:

- The predicted and reported severity of the Disease was/has been grossly overestimated.
- Healthy people are not at high risk of complications from SARS-COV-2 (Virus) if they do catch it.
- You can naturally boost your immune system to lessen symptoms if you do come into contact with the Virus (coincidentally the only thing that the so-called vaccines claim to do).
- Healthy people are not spreaders of disease.
- If you catch the virus there are safe and effective treatment protocols to aid in recovery (which have been used by doctors since March 2020) which do not involve vaccination.
- Natural infection gives longer-lasting and durable protection against reinfection.

An emergency is a sudden manifestation of urgent circumstances. With the information provided, there is absolutely no justification for a state of emergency, for the situation is not sudden nor urgent by any means. The evidence stated above shows how the SOE has been used to terrorise, discriminate against, and destroy the lives and livelihoods of innocent Queenslanders. Extending the state of emergency at this point is less about managing a crisis, and more about retaining the powers and control gained over Queenslanders since the start of the pandemic.

I implore the committee to genuinely consider whether Queensland or indeed Australia, is still a liberal democracy. Will you listen to the will of your constituents or will you continue to suspend democracy in your pursuit of unmitigated power? There is no acceptable reason to extend the state of emergency bill and any vote in support of this is a gross abuse of Queenslanders and an abhorrent abuse of power. With the information provided and readily available to the public, we are wiser, and we now know better. There is no excuse to extend the SOE and I beseech you to have the courage and leadership to do what is right. **Do not support the PUBLIC HEALTH AND OTHER LEGISLATION (EXTENSION OF EXPIRING PROVISIONS) AMENDMENT BILL 2022 (BILL).**

Regards,  
Georgia James



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