

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Community Support and Services Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Emergency Bill Extension  
**Date:** Thursday, 3 March 2022 1:41:31 PM

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Dear Committee Secretary

My name is Ashleigh Mitchell. I am a high school Chemistry teacher, a wife and a soon-to-be mum, and I am writing to state that I DO NOT want an Extension to the Emergency Bill (until 31st October 2022).

I am grateful that the state took such swift action during the height of the pandemic in 2020/2021, particularly during DELTA. However, based on the latest ABS data and the fact that OMICRON is now the dominant strain, I believe it is time for Queensland to return to normal.

## **COVID DEATH DATA**

The latest data from the ABS highlights how over the 22 months of COVID only 2639 people died with COVID, of whom 92% had three (three!!) serious underlying conditions. The distinction of dying WITH covid and not solely DUE TO covid is essential. Given that the median age of COVID deaths was 81 and 86 for men and women respectively (above the national average lifespans), it is quite clear that COVID does not pose a serious public health risk.

The vaccination mandates (which were strangely introduced when the state was already 83.6% double dosed) did not prevent a COVID wave in early 2022. The number of cases still skyrocketed. Therefore, those who remain unvaccinated are being excluded from society for no justifiable reason. This is discrimination and segregation.

The only measurable impact of the mandates is the economic impact on businesses and families who have lost their clients and jobs.

When other infectious conditions (such as the flu) kill more people than COVID, it is clear that the extreme measures taken to prevent COVID are excessive and unnecessary. As the rest of the world begin to relax and abolish restrictions, it is time for us to follow suit and stop.

## **PERSONAL IMPACTS**

On a personal level, the mandates have forced me to take maternity leave very early at only ~20 weeks pregnant or else lose my job, as I am firm in my decision to wait until after my baby is born before receiving an experimental vaccine. (2 years of R&D is insufficient in my opinion for making judgements about safety during pregnancy and long-term outcomes).

As we could not afford to both lose our jobs, my husband felt coerced by the state into receiving an injection that he did not want. But he felt an obligation to feed his family and pay our mortgage, and therefore was forced to be vaccinated. (The “choice” between homelessness or vaccination is not a real choice.)

The fear-mongering about COVID, vaccination mandates, etc. has caused separation in my family, friend and colleague groups. This has led to social isolation which has affected my mental health, in addition to the ACTUAL isolation (in terms of physically not being

allowed to go certain places).

Please immediately end the mandates and let's return to a normal society that embraces inclusivity and freedom of choice.

Kind regards,  
Ashleigh Mitchell

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