

3 March 2022

Alan Pedersen
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Committee Secretary
Community Support and Services Committee
Email: cssc@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Committee Secretary,

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

It is time to end the 'Emergency Powers' in Queensland.

I **do not support** the Bill nor the extension of the state of emergency.

Queensland was the first Australian State to declare an emergency on 29 January 2020 in response to the global outbreak of coronavirus and if we extend this again, Queenslanders will have been living under a 'state of emergency' for nearly three years.

The Premier said at the time: "Queensland acted early and strengthened the laws because public safety is paramount".

The latest ABS data confirms that:

- Between March 2020 – January 2022 less than 1% of deaths died of COVID.
- The majority of COVID deaths, 92%, had other underlying health issues. An average of roughly 3 diseases or conditions per person.
- The median age of males who died of COVID in Australia was 81.2 and for women, 86 years of age.
- Healthy young children and healthy adults under 80 years are unlikely to suffer severe illness and death associated with contracting COVID.

Over the last two years Queensland has seen our economy crushed, small businesses ruined, hundreds of thousands of jobs lost, many examples of loss and suffering and a rise in demand for mental health services. Our children's education and health have been severely compromised.

By virtue of "public safety" we have sacrificed freedom of speech, the right to work, freedom of conscience and the right to choose. We lack government transparency and public trust in our institutions, including medicine and therapeutic regulatory agencies and boards, health practitioners and mainstream media.

I strongly believe this Bill **should not** be extended past 30 April 2022, and the Minister for Health must end the declared public health emergency now. End mandates, lock downs, border closures and mask wearing.

Yours sincerely,

Alan Pedersen

