

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Community Support and Services Committee](#)
Subject: No to Extension of Queensland Emergency Bill
Date: Thursday, 3 March 2022 10:33:58 PM

**RE: NO TO THE EXTENSION OF EMERGENCY BILL IN QUEENSLAND
UNTIL THE 31ST OF OCTOBER 2022.**

My name is Kristy Xavier, a resident of the Sunshine Coast, Queensland. The purpose of this email is to express my **strong opposition** to the extension of the Emergency Bill and related public health measures for another 9 months. Please find my reasons and evidence for this opposition below.

**SOCIAL/EMOTIONAL IMPLICATIONS OF EXTENSION OF EMERGENCY
BILL:**

At the beginning of 2021, According to the Bureau of Statistics, 79% of Australians agreed that the vaccine would get us back to a new normal. However, the key findings of a Mental and Emotional wellbeing survey carried out by the ABS has found that since June 2021, and despite high vaccination rates amongst Australian citizens:

- 1 in 5 (20%) of Australians have experienced high or very high psychological distress as a response to the Covid-19 Pandemic
- 22% of people in Australia feel lonely and isolated
- 1 in 3 households are worse off financially
- More people with jobs work from home
- Fewer people reported exercising at a gym or using a public park, or playing sports
- Fewer people attended social gatherings

While the Covid-19 Emergency response has focussed heavily on the immediate physical health of the Australian people, the mental distress of a population subjected to 2 years of indiscriminate lockdowns, mandates, health directives and social distancing has been widely overlooked and underreported.

REASONS TO ABOLISH THE QUEENSLAND EMERGENCY BILL:

In 2021, when the vaccine rollout began, the main factors motivating the Australian people to get the Covid-19 vaccine, as reported by the Australian Bureau of Statistics, were:

- To prevent contracting or experiencing Covid-19 symptoms
- Wanting to travel

- **94% of all Australians over 16 are now fully vaccinated.**
- **Total current Covid-19 cases in Australia 2'892'325**
- **2639 Australians have died from Covid-19 since the pandemic began in March**

2020 (Less than 1%)

Despite the high vaccination rate, Australia is still experiencing record numbers of cases. Arguably, the Covid-19 vaccine is neither effective at sterilising disease or stopping, even limiting transmission and yet our public health measures, vaccine mandates and passports, social distancing and lack of freedom to travel remain in place. The passing of this Bill will only limit our capacity to participate in society and economy for a further 9 months.

- In 2019 Influenza was the 9th leading cause of death in Australia.
 - 310' 000 people were admitted to hospital with Influenza
 - 1080 Australians died in the 2019 flu season alone
 - **Despite the ferocity of the 2019 flu season, the Australian people were not subjected to lockdowns, public health orders, mask mandates, vaccine mandates, vaccine passports or social distancing.**
-
- **According to the Australian Bureau of Statistics, Covid-19 is the 38th leading cause of death in Australia.**
 - **Total deaths with or from Covid-19 in Australia since March 2020 is 2'639**
 - **83 of these deaths were attributed to other causes such as cancer where the casualty was Covid positive.**
 - **73.4% of those who died from Covid had pre-existing chronic health conditions**

Covid-19 accounts for only 1% of fatalities in Australia since the pandemic began. The median age of death from Covid-19 in Australia is 86 years.

I seriously question the validity of extending a Bill to all citizens of Queensland and reducing the capacity of businesses and employees to earn a living and freely participate in the social and cultural practices that keep us happily and meaningfully engaged.

WHY QUEENSLAND MUST ABOLISH THE EMERGENCY BILL EXTENSION:

- **90.9% of Queenslanders are fully vaccinated.**
- **69 Queenslanders have died of Covid since the beginning of the pandemic in March 2020**
- **The Australian Department of Health 2/3/2022 states that Queensland currently has 6'479 Covid-19 cases in a population of 5.257 million. Only 26 of these cases are in ICU.**

I do not wish to downplay the severity of Covid-19 on the elderly population, or de-value the experiences of those who have lost loved ones from Covid, however in light of the official data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics, and as a Queensland citizen whose family, including ageing relatives has had and survived Covid-19, I submit this question: why endorse a Bill that will adversely affect the social and economic participation of a huge proportion of Queensland children, parents, carers, wage earners, business owners,

musicians and entertainers **when over 90% of the Queensland population is vaccinated, you are convinced that your vaccine is working, and that it provides the level of protection you have promised the people of Queensland?**

The Queensland COVID-19 Emergency Bill Extension is a step backwards in a society and economy that desperately needs to move forward, and I wholeheartedly oppose it.

Yours sincerely

Kristy Xavier

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]