From:

Community Support and Services Committee

Subject: Extension to the Emergency Bill

Date: Friday, 4 March 2022 7:34:12 AM

To those concerned:

I write as small a business owner, parent and lifetime citizen of regional Qld.

I am deeply APPOSED to any further extension to the emergency powers extended to the state government in the name of the Covid "Pandemic".

I understand the reasoning these powers were granted early in the stages of Covid in the absence of understanding around the dangers of this virus (to some degree), but believe that urgency is well and truly passed and by the state's own actions there's now a broad realisation that personal responsibility must now play a part in the future well-being of citizens.

Our business has been devastated- not by Covid (as now most staff (that are left) and customers have been exposed) - but by mandates imposed by the state government. We simply cannot survive another six months of uncertainty around changing goalposts of doing business in this state. We do not live in a police state and a dangerous precedent of compliance is being set that is un Australian.

To be clear- adversity has come from your policies not from the virus.

For what it's worth I'm disappointed that the powers have been used to cause division in communities, between states and between countries. While the unknowns around a new virus may have justified this in early times, now it has gone to the extreme and must cease.

I did not appreciate as a business owner being told to police mandates pushing policies I questioned myself on staff and customers and the media around effectiveness of vaccines, masks and other "silver bullet" solutions became laughable to Antoine with any sort of education.

Again for what it's worth- if anyone reads these letters beyond the subject line, the absolute deathly silence from our "Health" department on the importance of diet, exercise and wellbeing (particularly around stress management) has been astounding. A great opportunity to use these extra-ordinary powers has been missed to encourage (or mandate) people to change habits, remove low nutrient, high sugar food from peoples diets and getting people out of crowded cities into the sun and fresh air.

I know- a step too far- just keep getting needles and force people to wear masks is a much easier sell. Imagine a legacy from "emergency" policies being a healthier, fitter and more decentralised population rather than a divided, scared one with a few major multinational beneficiaries. Why not mandate organic food, mandate regional outdoor work, mandate removal of sugar from food? That would be a legacy outcome!

The data does not support the emergency status (and powers) a real emergency may be associated with (like a war) which numbs people when a real emergency happens.

Regarding Covid, statistically it's impossible to see the effectiveness of the measures that were imposed as we have so many with pre-existing health conditions in our state (their data hasn't been removed from the sample). This is the message that came out of this whole experience and one that a reactive health system perhaps should focus on for the next generation.

Enough is enough, and if people can't see the current situation for what it is already, another six months of government overreach with these powers will definitely have them wondering - and you voted out.

The only argument I can see for it continuing is a future strain that may be more deadly than the ones we've experienced, however history and the rules of nature don't support this outcome coming to fruition as viruses usually get more infectious but less deadly over time until they disappear. If it does break the rules of nature (I can only imagine how that would happen), declare another emergency then as it'll mean more - and stop ruining our livelihoods!

Yours sincerely.

Tim Scott

Sent from my iPhone