

From: [Mark Jensen](#)
To: [Community Support and Services Committee](#)
Subject: Objection to Extension of Emergency Bill
Date: Friday, 4 March 2022 8:06:13 AM

Dear Committee

I write to you to express my objection to the Extension of the Emergency Bill for Queensland.

The emergency from Covid-19 is no longer in effect. This is evidenced by our hospital systems not being overloaded, and the fact that no Code Brown has ever been declared within any of the state's hospital and health services or by Queensland Health within the last 12 months in accordance with Disaster and Emergency Incident Plans. Further to this, the Coronavirus has mutated into a strand that is no longer as dangerous as the original Alpha strand, or its sub-variant, Delta.

The original Emergency Bill was granted based on a death rate from the Alpha and Delta variants. The changing variant no longer warrants a state of emergency and there is no longer a need for emergency powers. Under Australian Standard 3745, an emergency is defined as 'An event, actual or imminent, which endangers or threatens to endanger life, property, or the environment, **and which requires a significant and coordinated response**'. The need for significant and coordinated response no longer exists. We have even been told this by the Chief Health Officer stating on 11th January 2022, 'I think anxiety will settle **once we realise it is just another virus.**'

The potential for continuing these emergency powers is unacceptable to any democratic society and cannot be justified in the light of the mounting evidence. Extension of the emergency powers is unwarranted.

The negatives of these powers have enabled dictatorship in our government, forcing unnecessary mandates onto all Queenslanders and coercing people, including healthcare workers into a position of being injected with a substance or having no job. This in itself placed more strain on the healthcare system as thousands of nurses and doctors across the state chose body autonomy and were subsequently terminated from their roles. Any pain felt in the health sector is a direct result of the government's own doing through mandates, nothing less. Overall, the entire emergency powers created more divide in our communities and for a virus that has a survival rate greater than 99.8% in persons less than 80.

The emergency is over, please do what is right and do not extend the emergency powers. They are no longer necessary.

With thanks

Mark Jensen

