

4 March 2022

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



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

Dear Committee Secretary,

I would like to advise the Community Support and Services Committee that I do not support the extension of the state of emergency or the Public Health and other Legislation (Extension of Expiring Provisions) Amendment Bill of 2022.

When these emergency powers were first introduced there was a naive view that they were for the benefit of the wider community.

Two years in and there is a general feeling within the community that these powers are now being abused and it is time to stop them.

There is much evidence that the harsh approach that has been taken under these emergency powers has not benefitted the community when weighed against the social, financial and health (both physical and mental) costs that have been suffered as a direct consequence of them.

The science from overseas is not supporting the continuation of these extreme powers. There is no logical and rational reason for extending them.

They were always proposed as a temporary measure and they have run their course so now is the time for them to stop. If not, I fear that those in power will become drunk on that power and will never willingly relinquish them.

This Bill must be rejected in its entirety.

Voters will react very positively to the extension not being granted and these un-democratic emergency powers ceasing.

Your sincerely,

Dean Powers