From: <u>Daniel Markert</u>

To: <u>Community Support and Services Committee</u>

**Subject:** Bill Emergency.

**Date:** Friday, 4 March 2022 9:58:07 AM

## Dear Committee,

I strongly object to any Extension of the Emergency Bill due to the prevalence of Omicron's extremely low death rate in comparison to the delta/alpha variants. Covid was the 38<sup>th</sup> leading cause of death as of 29 September 2021 according to the Australian Bureau of Statistics data, there are 2639 death registrations recorded on the ABS from the start of the pandemic to 32 in January 2022. Therefore, this Extension of the Emergency Bill is most definitely an overreach by this government to continue to impact the people of Queensland wellbeing and continue to erode the loss of democracy for this state.

The original Emergency Bill was granted based on a death rate from the Alpha and Delta variants. The current Omicron variant presents as a far milder variant and as a result less people have been in the hospital's ICU, and currently 26 in Queensland according to the Federal Government Health data for the 2 of March 2022. The survival rate with Covid is in the high 98% and higher for the bulk of the population, which is a greater survival rate than the seasonal flu virus.

The extension of powers is based on COVID deaths in Queensland and COVID numbers. The case numbers have indicated that the original modelling was substantially overinflated and used to support lockdowns, segregation, loss of democratic rights over medical choices, loss of jobs through mandates when the Queensland data for deaths is very low and again proving to be a mild sickness.

The negatives of these mandates and the pressure it is placing on Queenslanders through lost jobs and a pressured healthcare system, far outweigh the negatives going forward. Particularly when it seems that many Queenslanders have had COVID-19, now have natural immunity, vaccinated rates in the 90%, and according to the Government's own modelling the peak has now passed and considering the current flood crisis in southeast Queensland.

The potential for continued discrimination via these emergency powers is unacceptable to any democratic society. Parents unable to go to see children in hospitals without having the vaccinations required, people dying alone without the support of loved one's due to concern about Covid spreading when it is already in the community with many thousands of people

already having the virus. People being coerced to have vaccinations in order to see family members in Age Care. Aged Care residents left alone without family in lockdowns, which has devastating emotional tolls on their mental health. School children's mental health has been impacted by these lockdowns with at-home learning, and at risk children living in trauma have been removed from the support of their school community. Businesses have been impacted by the systems put in place under the Health Emergency Bill, which impacts the state's economy and individuals' finances.

Current estimates indicate that Omicron deaths are only a very small fraction of those adjusted numbers. Any extension is not warranted and should NOT be granted.

Daniel Markert