

**Submission for Public Health and Other Legislation (Extension of Expiring Provisions)
Amendment Bill 2022**

Penelope Browne

[REDACTED]

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I am against the proposed extension to this bill for the following reasons.

At a time when the country is trying to restore confidence, in our population and also to the rest of the world, Government overreach must be seen to be avoided, Minister D'Ath's concerns in these matters would hinder progress in these goals. Transparency in government process is vital for the restoration of confidence.

Australia is now advertising for visitors from overseas. Further extension would be counter productive and will continue to raise public anxiety at a time when we are moving forward, opening up the country to tourist and business travellers.

Australia has now got a reputation as dictatorial. Those overseas are seeing a loss of democracy in our country. It will take positive PR to restore public perception of Australia from overseas, and a continuing State of Emergency makes these perceptions difficult to refute.

It would be a huge feather in our cap if Queensland can say the pandemic has now finished, due to our measures taken in the last two years, and the state is now returning to normal, increasing trade and improving the lives of our citizens. Queensland should lead the way and become the tourist hub it once was.

It is now time for Queensland to make a statement that there is no further emergency, and it is now safe and welcoming visitors, who can be confident in returning to our shores and investing in our great state.