

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Community Support and Services Committee](#)
Subject: Extension of the State of Emergency
Date: Friday, 4 March 2022 10:46:25 AM

Dear Committee,

My purpose in emailing you is to let you know that I strongly object to any extension to the current State of public health Emergency. My three main reasons are briefly given below.

(1) The recently published data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics show that from the beginning until the end of February, Covid-19 deaths - both with and from - account for just under 1% of all deaths of Australians during this time. The measures taken are barely justifiable given the impact on our economy and other causes of deaths. The data show that the most susceptible to dying from Covid-19 are the poorest in our community, and the measures have depleted our economy, making many people a lot poorer.

(2) The data being released by Pfizer following the US Supreme Court ruling cast doubt on the safety of their mandated product. Other reliable sources of data such as life insurance companies in the USA and Germany also give a concerning picture. The cautionary principle should be adhered to, given the new data. The risk versus reward is tipping against the vaccine, given the endemic nature of Covid-19 and the inefficacy of the vaccine against new variants.

(3) The flooding across south east Queensland will take many months for us to recover from. The State of Emergency health orders did much to divide and stress communities and especially workplaces. It is time to put that behind us, come together and focus on recovery and building a better future. Numerous states and countries have moved away from containment to living with Covid-19, especially given the exposure of the population to the virus and the vaccination program.

Many of my friends and family have had Covid-19. It wasn't pleasant, but none of them thought it needed the actions taken by governments, especially after the spread of the omicron variant. Certainly, Covid-19 can kill, but so can the flu. It is impossible to justify the focus on the deaths from Covid-19 and the absolute disregard of the health of other patients and the causes of their deaths. I have in mind the people in northern NSW unable to access their local hospital. I had a dear friend of thirty years who could not get timely treatment for her cancer due to quarantine. Her only family in Australia, her husband, died but no family member could travel here to be with her from Germany. And then she, too, died with no family near her at all. The heartrending tales don't only belong to Covid victims.

Governments need to make decisions on the balance of evidence from a range of experts, including economists. Governments are inept when they abdicate the responsibility of governing to an unelected official, their Chief Health Officer.

Do not extend the time period of the public health emergency.

yours sincerely,

Mary Ozturkmen

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