

From: [Kellie O'Grady](#)
To: [Community Support and Services Committee](#)
Subject: PUBLIC HEALTH AND OTHER LEGISLATION (EXTENSION OF EXPIRING PROVISIONS) AMENDMENT BILL 2022
Date: Thursday, 3 March 2022 6:12:32 PM

Committee Secretary
Community Support and Services Committee

Dear Secretary,

As have many, my family has suffered greatly as a result of the mandates, a lot of which make very little sense. It is unreasonable and dangerous to provide the Government continued overreaching control where it is unnecessary, and it is apparent the mandates have caused more harm than benefit. The powers have been used to coerce, bully and directly discriminate against and/or incite the community to discriminate and ostracise certain groups of people. They have restricted people's rights and taken away things that can never be given back. People have taken their own lives as a result, there has been an increase in mental health issues generally and many have lost the chance to say goodbye or spend much needed time with loved ones.

It is questionable on what basis the powers were granted in the first place as more evidence comes to light and I strongly object to any Extension of the Emergency Bill due to the prevalence of Omicron's extremely low death rate compared to the delta/alpha variants. The original Emergency Bill was granted based on a death rate from the Alpha and Delta variants, and the case numbers have indicated that the original modelling was substantially overinflated.

The extension of powers is based on COVID deaths in Queensland and COVID numbers. The health data is now showing the exaggeration of such data. 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.

The mandates allowed under the powers are questionable, as we see people who have suffered harm as a result of vaccines, most of who are unlikely to require hospitalisation or die, and we know the efficacy of the vaccines for which they were originally touted is extremely low. The use of masks to contain the spread of viruses is questionable yet high school children, as young as 12, have been forced to wear them including during Summer which is incredibly dangerous. At times throughout the last two years we have been told that even during vigorous exercise masks were required to be worn! Border closures are ridiculous in the first place as we live in one country called Australia. Besides that, they are unsustainable long term and have only postponed the inevitable - and so much has been lost because of them.

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, and according to the Government's own modelling the peak has now passed.

Kellie O'Grady

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