

From: [Abi Riley](#)
To: [Community Support and Services Committee](#)
Subject: Opposing Public Health and Other Legislation (Extension of Expiring Provisions) Amendment Bill 2022
Date: Thursday, 3 March 2022 6:37:54 PM

Dear Committee Secretary,

I am writing to state my OPPOSITION to the Public Health and Other Legislation (Extension of Expiring Provisions) Amendment Bill 2022.

According to recent data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics:

- Between 11 March 2020 and 31 January 2022, the number of Australians that died was 273 901.
- Only 2 639 of these deaths were COVID related. 91.4% of these had other underlying conditions listed on the death certificate.
- In the same time, some 100 000 people have died of cancer, 32 000 of heart disease, 30 000 of Alzheimer's and Dementia, and 10 000 of diabetes.
- COVID related deaths only represent around 1% of Australia's total deaths in 22 months.
- In Queensland, there have only been 69 deaths - 2.7% of the total COVID-related deaths in Australia.

Further, thousands of people have been adversely impacted by the vaccine mandates imposed, including those with exemptions. In a survey conducted by Queensland Education United, which had 2401 respondents:

- 1 946 are not able to work under current mandates.
- 68% of people with a medical exemption are still not being allowed to work.
- 1 428 are experiencing financial hardship.
- 72% of respondents stated that their mental health has been negatively impacted, including 24% having had suicidal thoughts occasionally, weekly or daily.

This survey only represents a fraction of those who have been impacted. **Personally, I have lost my dream job as a high school teacher, after teaching for 6 years.**

- I have chosen not to be vaccinated for a number of reasons, one of which is adverse reactions to vaccination in the past.
- It has been almost impossible to get a medical exemption in QLD - one colleague was unable to, despite a history of blood clots, and another was unable to, despite having Crohn's Disease.
- I was due to commence a new position in January 2022 after having three different schools express their interest in hiring me for this year; knowing I am highly employable and a desirable candidate for positions that desperately need filling has been extremely frustrating.
- There are very few jobs currently available which are suitable for my qualifications, experience and expertise, which do not require a COVID vaccination.
- I have gone without an income since 15 December 2021.

Thus, I strongly oppose the extension of emergency powers.

Sincerely,
Abigail Riley

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