

**From:** [Catherine Long](#)  
**To:** [Community Support and Services Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Opposition to the extension of Emergency Bill 2022  
**Date:** Friday, 4 March 2022 12:15:02 AM

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Dear Committee,

I strongly oppose any extension to the Emergency Bill proposed to be extended to 31st October 2022.

#### Omicron

- The Emergency Bill is no longer required. The Omicron variant of COVID 19 has peaked throughout Queensland and we have coped remarkably well. Deaths are extremely low compared to the Delta and Alpha strains of the virus. Our hospitals are coping well with small amounts of patients admitted for treatment. The Omicron variant that is prevalent in Queensland is similar to the common cold or flu. This does not require emergency powers!

#### ABS Data for Australia

- I was shocked to learn the real death statistics from the ABS. Only 2 639 deaths have occurred from Covid in the whole of Australia until 31 Jan 2022. Of these 2 639 deaths, 92% of people had 3 serious underlying conditions and the median age was 81 years for men and 86 years for women - (Both these ages are above the life expectancy for Australians). The extension of powers is based on COVID deaths – this data from the ABS confirms that we do not need an extension to the Emergency Bill 2022.
- Over the 22months of COVID in Australia, sadly 273 901 Australians have died. With 2 639 deaths from COVID, this makes up 0.001% of deaths in Australia. With the extension of the bill being based on COVID deaths, can you justify extending the Emergency Bill with a death rate of 0.001%?

#### ABS Data for Queensland

- Only 69 people have died from COVID since 31<sup>st</sup> Jan 2022. Most of these were over 80.
- 791 died by taking their own lives in 2020. The highest group was men aged 35 to 39.
- While it is regrettable that our old people are dying, it is clear that COVID is not the hype of death it has been made out to be and we need to focus and support other areas of society. We do not need an extension to the Emergency Bill 2022.

#### International Data

- The UK and other European countries have dropped check in, masks, mandates and testing. The US Supreme Court has deemed mandates unconstitutional and this week our close neighbours New Zealand, have ditched mandates via the high court. We need to stop the scare tactics as 99.9% of Queenslanders have nothing to fear.

#### Segregation of Society

- Never in my lifetime did I believe I would see Queenslanders being discriminated against and segregated from society all because of their private medical choices. I am appalled that this government has bought in such measures and it needs to stop. All the evidence clearly shows that this segregation and discrimination is pointless and that we do not need

an extension to the Emergency Bill 2022.

Loss Of Jobs

- Queenslanders are being affected by the mandates due to thousands of nurses, doctors, firefighters, teachers, education staff, early childhood workers and other professions who have sacked or stood down workers who refuse the vaccine. I myself have been stood down by my employer and also my son will be stood down when he turns 16. The effect this has had financially is significant, but my bigger concern is our mental and emotional health which has suffered the biggest blow. All to stop a virus similar to a cold of flu? Please do not extend the Emergency Bill 2022.

All of the evidence leads to one conclusion. Queensland does not need an extension to the Emergency Bill 2022!

Kind regards,

Catherine Long

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