

From: [melanie darcy](#)
To: [Community Support and Services Committee](#); [Kawana Electorate Office](#); [Glass House Electorate Office](#)
Subject: Public Health and Other Legislation (Extension of Expiring Provisions) Amendment Bill 2022 Submission
Date: Friday, 4 March 2022 11:39:33 AM

To the Committee:

I write this submission to outline the reasons why I feel that the extension of expiring provisions with regards to the Covid-19 emergency is unwarranted.

I am a Registered Nurse, and up until December 14, 2021, I was working at the Sunshine Coast University Private Hospital, in a Clinical Nurse role. I have been instrumental in bringing Robotic Surgery to the Sunshine Coast, setting up and running our Robotic Surgery Program, where we have treated over 350 prostate cancer patients in the time between April 2017 and December 2021. I have also held the Radiation Safety Officer role for Laser for our hospital since 2015. Due to my own personal medical history, in consultation with my GP and after doing my own research on both the vaccines and this virus, I have elected to remain unvaccinated against Covid-19, preferring to reduce the risks to myself and my family of contracting the virus and improve our immune systems through natural means (diet, supplements and lifestyle choices). As a result, I have been stood down from my role as a nurse and have been placed on forced leave until such time as the government mandates are revoked, I become fully vaccinated or my employment is terminated. This has been extremely stressful for my family, as my employment provides a good income.

The restrictions placed upon the community by the government, particularly in the form of snap lockdowns in the early days, were fruitful and certainly had my support as a health care worker. However, the inconsistencies in advice from the premier in particular have shown to be more confusing than helpful and as a result, we see more and more people ignoring the 'health advice'. Of particular note is the conflicting advice given with regards to mask wearing. Early on in the pandemic, and even as far back as 2018, the QLD Government had put out official advice stating that wearing surgical masks did more harm than good. This is backed up by scientific research and certainly at work, in a surgical setting, we are aware that incorrect wearing of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) renders the PPE useless at best and dangerous at worst. In fact, in the hospital settings, staff are now wearing N95 masks and face shields to protect themselves against Covid-19, but the general populus are still being encouraged to wear any face covering they like. This makes no sense, hence people are not following the guidelines.

The closure of schools has long been an issue, and the mental health of our children and families is paramount coming out of this pandemic. We see a large number of people across our communities who have been impacted by restrictions on births, deaths, marriages, birthdays, family celebrations and families being torn apart based upon stance on vaccination. We have seen mandates in force with regards to certain industries (hospitality, healthcare, education, entertainment, travel) and vaccination status, with

employers unable to recruit staff and perfectly healthy and capable workers unable to gain employment. As a result, we are seeing homelessness increase, unemployment soar and businesses close. In short, these emergency powers, and the abuse of them by the current government, are destroying our great state and our local communities.

The Premier herself has stated that we need to learn to live with Covid - and we do. Vaccination has been made available for those wishing to take it, and a great number of queenslanders have contracted Covid-19 and recovered (most since the premier opened our borders to 'fully vaccinated' tourists, indicating that the vaccines are not effective at reducing the spread and therefore all mandates regarding vaccines should be dropped). As such, Covid-19 no longer poses any emergency threat and we should allow these emergency powers to expire on April 30 2022 so that queenslanders can get on with rebuilding our once great state.

Sincerely,

Melanie Darcy

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