

From: [Cameron Family](#)
To: [Community Support and Services Committee](#)
Subject: PUBLIC HEALTH AND OTHER LEGISLATION (EXTENSION OF EXPIRING PROVISIONS) AMENDMENT BILL 2022
Date: Friday, 4 March 2022 11:46:12 AM

Committee Secretary
Community Support and Services Committee
Parliament House
George Street
Brisbane Qld 4000

Dear Sir/Madam,

I write to ask that you consider the following points in regards to extending the emergency powers under the Public Health Act.

1. The definition of an Emergency under the Act; given the current levels of COVID in the community, the fact that the Omicron wave went through Queensland without causing the predicted devastation, also the fact that there a no major variants of concern internationally, I think serious consideration needs to be put to whether COVID still constitutes an emergency under the Act. If these powers are extended and it is found that we are no longer in an emergency, then these powers will have been illegally exercised.
2. Transitional arrangements; If the bill is passed, the Government will have had over two years(under emergency powers), to ensure that the emergency powers are transitioned effectively, these transitional arrangements should be developed and passed through normal parliamentary process i.e. democratically.
3. The Emergency powers add uncertainty to an already uncertain business environment, small business has been devastated and many are just holding on. We should be doing everything in our power to stabilise/grow confidence in the economy in the aftermath of COVID.
4. Public Mental health - the psychosocial costs of COVID are yet to be counted, however it is clear that we have paid a heavy price during the pandemic. Any further uncertainty will only add to the costs we pay as a society

I hope that after consideration of these point you will see that passing this bill is not in the best interest of Queensland.

Kind Regards,

Straun Cameron
