
From: Karen Farley [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 3 March 2022 2:39 PM
To: Community Support and Services Committee
Subject: DO NOT EXTEND THE EMERGENCY BILL

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Dear Committee Secretary,

I am writing to state that I DO NOT WANT AN EXTENSION TO THE EMERGENCY BILL (until 31st October 2022).

I am grateful that the state took such swift action during the height of the pandemic in 2020/2021, particularly during Delta. However, based on the latest ABS data and the fact that Omicron is now the dominant strain, I strenuously believe it is time for Queensland to return to normal.

COVID DEATH DATA

The latest data from the ABS highlights how over the 22 months of COVID, 2639 people died with COVID, of whom 92% had three (three!!!) serious underlying conditions. **The distinction of dying WITH covid and not solely DUE TO covid is essential.**

Given that the median age of COVID deaths was 81 and 86 for men and women respectively (above the national average lifespans), it is quite clear that COVID does not pose a serious public health risk.

The vaccination mandates (which were strangely introduced when the state was already 83.6% double doses) did not prevent a COVID wave in early 2022. The number of cases still skyrocketed. Therefore, those who remain unvaccinated are being excluded from society **for no justifiable reason**. This is blatant discrimination and segregation.

The only measurable impact of the mandates is the terrible economic impact on businesses and families who have lost their clients and jobs. When other infectious conditions (such as the flu) kill more people than COVID, **it is clear that the ongoing extreme measures taken to prevent COVID are excessive and unnecessary.**

The rest of the world has acknowledged that it is time to relax and abolish restrictions; it is time for us to follow suit and stop.

PERSONAL IMPACT

On a personal note, due to the mandates, I lost my job. As a career teacher of 30 years, I had semi-retired so that I could care for my aging parents, whilst still financially supporting myself and contributing my skillset to society.

I was waiting for a tried and tested vaccine such as Novavax to become available rather than receiving experimental vaccines. (2 years of R&D is insufficient in my opinion for making judgements about safety and long-time outcomes.) I am still awaiting the ATAGI to approve Novavax as a COVID booster vaccine rather than using any of the other RMNA viral technologies.

The deliberate fear-mongering about COVID, vaccination mandates, etc has caused serious fractures in our society. I have seen it cause separation in my family, friendship and collegial groups. I also run 2 community non-for-profit groups for women and it has caused serious segregation in these groups.

The damage the mandates have done in relation to social isolation has impacted not just my own mental health, but many, many other people within our community.

Being refused entry – ie being physically isolated due to not being allowed to go to certain places – has caused me personal difficulties and certainly in relation to my community groups has caused significant difficulties in offering valuable support programs.

Please IMMEDIATELY END THE MANDATES and let us all return to a normal society that embraces inclusivity and freedom of choice; where we encourage each other to speak and act from a place of love and compassion, rather than fear.

Kind regards

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