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**From:** Rina Mouton [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 3 March 2022 3:32 PM  
**To:** Community Support and Services Committee  
**Subject:** Public Health and Other Legislation

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**Categories:** Submission

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

To the Committee Secretary,

RE: Public Health and Other Legislation (Extension of Expiring Provisions)  
Amendment Bill 2022

I write to the committee to clearly state my opposition to all parts of the Public Health and Other Legislation (Extension of Expiring Provisions) Amendment Bill 2022.

Queenslanders have been living under a 'State of Emergency' for over two years. I am strongly opposed to any further extensions of emergency powers. These powers have resulted in infringement of human dignity, human rights and fundamental freedoms of all Queenslanders. If this amendment bill is passed, Queenslanders will be living under a State of Emergency for nearly 3 years without appropriate justification.

It must be noted that the actions of the State Government in responding to the Covid-10 emergency over the past 2 years would be considered illegal without the declaration of a State of Emergency, the expansion of existing powers and the continued extension of emergency powers.

The current Omicron variant doesn't pose the same health and mortality risks as the previous variants at the commencement of the pandemic. The state government is overreaching in their response to the Omicron variant and need to draw a line and ease restrictions and unduly mandates that do more harm than good. The expansions of existing powers are scientifically unproven and would be a violation of Article 3 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The health Minister must declare an end to the public health emergency as soon as possible and it is unnecessary to extend the Expiring Provisions (Amendment Bill 2022). Australia is a democracy and the said extension of a 'State of Emergency' will be a violation of the rights and freedoms of Queenslanders. The state government need to follow the example of other countries that are treating Covid-19 as an endemic disease like the common cold or flu.

I ask that the committee request and review the scientific literature and evidence the Health Minister is relying on to justify a 6-month extension of the expiring provisions. It is time to look to other countries and their success in dealing with Covid-19. Their transparency, and honest consideration of scientific data enable them to be leaders in the current Covid-19 situation. Any further extensions of emergency powers must be heavily scrutinised by the committee to safeguard against potential abuse of the Public Health Act 2005.

Kind regards,

Rina Mouton

