

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

Friday 4 March 2022

Dear Community Support and Services Committee Secretary,

Thankyou for the opportunity to present this submission regarding the Public Health and Other Legislation (Extension of Expiring Provisions) Amendment Bill 2022 (the Bill).

Please be aware that I AM AGAINST an extension of the public health emergency until 31 October 2022. I firmly believe this extension is unwarranted and would have a significant effect on individuals' rights and liberties. I urge you to consider this submission, not just for my sake, but for the sake of my fellow Queenslanders.

### **1. ABS statistics**

Recently, the Australian Bureau of Statistics released their data on deaths in Australia from January 2020 until November 2021.

- 273,901 people in Australia died during that time.
- Only 2,639 were COVID related deaths (that is less than 1%).
- The median age of those whose death was COVID-related was 81 for men and 86 for women. Both ages are greater than our life expectancy.

If people are concerned about the numbers of people dying, perhaps a different focus is needed – like focusing on people's general health so less people die from smoking-related diseases, heart issues or diabetes, for example.

### **2. 'State of Emergency' restrictions**

Some of these restrictions and mandates seem to have little effect in combatting the virus.

- Although most Queenslanders are vaccinated, this has not stopped the transmission of the virus
- Vaccinated and unvaccinated people have contracted COVID-19 and recovered
- Masks have done little to stop the spread of this virus

On the other hand, the restrictions and mandates have caused many serious adverse effects in our population.

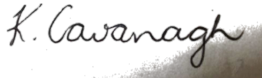
- Lockdowns have left people feeling isolated, and in some cases, depressed.
- Vaccine mandates have caused division in our society, amongst families, workplaces and friends.
- People (including myself, a Primary School Music Teacher) have been suspended from their workplace as a result of choosing not to get a vaccination.
- I believe the mandating of mask wearing for such a lengthy time has been detrimental to the health of otherwise healthy people.
- Mandates have caused some people to lose their jobs and some to lose their businesses.
- Restrictions and mandates have stopped some families from celebrating Weddings and supporting each other in sickness and sometimes loss of life.

I believe those things are just some of the serious adverse effects of prolonging this unwarranted 'public health emergency'. Since 29 January 2020, Queensland has been in a state of emergency and I believe most people have followed all the advice and directions given by the Chief Health Officer and Government, with the aim of flattening the curve, protecting the vulnerable and getting back to normal.

The restrictions and mandates which have been placed on Queenslanders need to end immediately. I urge you to give people their freedoms back.

Thankyou for your consideration of my submission.

Yours sincerely,

Kathleen Cavanagh 

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