

Dear Committee Members,

Under the Public Health and Other Legislation (Extension of Expiring Provisions) Amendment Bill 2022, Queensland's 'state of emergency' laws will be extended from 30 April 2022 to 31 October 2022.

My Position on the matter of extending Queensland's State Of Emergency:

I am AGAINST the extension of the 'State of Emergency' in Queensland.

REASONS FOR MY POSITION ON THE MATTER:

- The State Of Emergency impact's Queenslanders' ability to work.
- I am a teacher and unable to work at present due to the State Of Emergency and the Government stating that school's are now a 'high risk setting'. Despite allowing us to work through the Alpha and Delta variants, when Omicron has extremely low death rate compared to the delta/alpha variants.
- Mandates on doctors, nurses, paramedics, police officers, supermarket workers, etc must be lifted as these people need to return to work. Threatening people with their livelihood does not serve the community health, it creates division, takes away our human rights, promotes Discrimination, is unfair, unjust, is not about health, is coercive.
- My own son, whom is only 15 years of age has been threatened with termination by Woolworths if he does not choose to get vaccinated. When Queensland health have clearly stated children under the age of 16 are not required by law to disclose their vaccination status.
- It is coercive to demand that I am vaccinated to undertake my employment. Vaccination guidelines clearly state that it is illegal to force anyone to take a vaccination. There must be full valid and informed consent. I cannot consent while I am threatened with my job and unable to access long term data and possible side effects from taking one of the available vaccines.
- The case numbers have indicated that the original modelling was substantially overinflated.

- The extension of powers is based on COVID deaths in Queensland and COVID numbers. The health data is now showing the exaggeration of such data. Current estimates indicate that Omicron deaths are only a very small fraction of those adjusted numbers. Any extension is not warranted and should NOT be granted.
- The potential for continued discrimination via these emergency powers is unacceptable to any democratic society.
- The negatives of these mandates and the pressure it is placing on Queenslanders through lost jobs and a pressured healthcare system, far outweigh the negatives going forward. Particularly when it seems that many Queenslanders have had COVID-19, now have natural immunity, and according to the Government's own modelling the peak has now passed.

Kind regards,

Renae Howell-Randall

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