
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 4 March 2022 6:32 PM
To: Community Support and Services Committee

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Good evening,

I am writing to oppose the extension of the emergency bill. While it is undeniable that there are still many cases of covid in our community the majority of those are mild. I work in a pharmacy and most of the cases we hear of and assist with are no worse than the flu; rest, fluids and Panadol are all that is required to get through it.

It seems unreasonable to call this a state of emergency when we flu season is not.

As of today we have reached 91% fully vaccinated, I am aware that southern states have higher vaccination rates but they are also more densely populated than Qld which gives them greater need. Much of Qld has been protected from covid by the fact that we are so far from major cities. Personally I don't see many more Queenslanders seeing the need to be vaccinated against a disease that so far has affected them less than the mandates have.

As a rural Queenslander I am very aware of the number of antivax/ vaccine hesitant/ alternative health members of our community. These people will never be swayed by mandates. I have watched them adjust quite well to the restrictions and continue life as normal. We have relatively low rise of covid, we are an hour and a half drive from a city, most of the pubs do take away. The unvaccinated are still here living their best lives.

I am not sure what you're waiting for, it's already been predicted by scientists that we will not reach 95% vaccinated, and the emergency has been over for months now. I know it's embarrassing to admit you're wrong but most of the restrictions don't make much sense anyway so really what's the difference?

On that note could someone please explain to me the difference between a church service and a wedding? Every Sunday I go to church, it's still a new plant so there's only about 50 to 80 people but still, about half are unvaccinated. Why is that not restricted to 20 people? People sit on pews, much like a wedding. A man stands at the front, talks, prays, we sing songs, much like a wedding. Seems pretty much the same to me. But today I sobbed my heart out because I'm getting married in August and right now wedding planning feels pointless. August 27th in a beautiful chapel in Palm Cove, my Pop is going to officiate the ceremony and I'm going to marry my best friend. And there will be 17 of our family there to celebrate with is. Think back to your wedding day, the dancing the laughter the friends and family. Now imagine that day without most of your guests. Most of my extended family live in Victoria and South Australia so I haven't actually seen any of them since 2019 but they'd come for a wedding. My fiances extended family are in New South Wales, they'd come for a wedding. Pity they won't be invited. [REDACTED] is antivax and while I disagree with her she's not someone we can just not have there, believe me I've considered it.

All I ask is for you to consider the people who are affected by the mandates, the antivaxers do not care, they won't change. But this is negatively impacting those who are vaccinated, I got my first job almost as soon as I could, I've followed all the rules, I checked in everywhere, I wore my mask to work every day without complaining because I believed that we have a government who was trying to protect us so I would follow all the rules and pray for this to be over. I have lost my faith in the Australian government.

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