

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Community Support and Services Committee](#)
Subject: PUBLIC HEALTH AND OTHER LEGISLATION (EXTENSION OF EXPIRING PROVISIONS) AMENDMENT BILL 2022
Date: Friday, 4 March 2022 11:42:35 AM

Good afternoon,

I would like to express my views on the subject of the extension of expiring Emergency Provisions. **I am against the extension of any emergency powers granted to the CHO and any other State actors in response to COVID-19**, for the reasons outlined below.

1. The provisions in place have not affected the nature or severity of COVID-19 but instead have taught people to self-manage against the virus. Most people social distance, wear masks and have been vaccinated/boosted, and will continue to do so after the Emergency Provisions expire. Therefore citizens do not require further provisions to 'do the right thing'.
2. The virus currently shows a mortality rate of 0.1%, with 12% of the population infected at some point in time. The original provisions were granted due to the death rate of Alpha and Delta variants. The current Omicron variant had an extremely low death rate compared to both the previous variants indicating that the Emergency Provisions are no longer required and the reason for them is no longer valid.
3. These provisions have seen many state departments, all of which were severely undermanned to begin with (i.e. healthcare and education) lose critical personnel, and are now less able to deliver vital services to the public. The continuation of the provisions will continue to see discrimination that is unacceptable in a democratic society as well as continued pressure on the community through loss of jobs, and a under functioning health, education and emergency services system.
4. Removing these provisions will not remove the provisions declared under the 'human biosecurity emergency', so COVID cases can still be managed very effectively on an individual basis, using qualified biosecurity officers rather than using unqualified police officers.
5. Extension of these provisions will not convince those against these provisions to change their stance, but it may enable them to justify themselves to cause more civil unrest and protests; which of course creates unrest and discomfort for the rest of us. Enough resources have been spent on managing civil unrest and should be reallocated to more important matters.

I thank you for the opportunity to express my opinion and hope that you will consider these points in making your decision.

Kind regards,
[REDACTED]