From:

Economics and Governance Committee

Subject: New Bill to extend Emergency Powers to 30 April 2022

Date: Wednesday, 30 June 2021 10:48:45 AM

I AM AGAINST THE BILL THAT HAS BEEN PUT FORWARD TO THE QLD GOVERNMENT - THIS NEEDS TO BE PUT TO THE PEOPLE AND VOTED ON IF THEY ARE IN AGREEANCE TO THIS - THIS IS SOCIALISTIC REFORM AND NOT DEMOCRATIC. YOU HAVE NO GROUNDS AND NUMBERS OF A SO CALLED PANDEMIC. YOU HAVE MADE UP AND CREATED FEAR IN OUR COMMUNITY IN ORDER TO GAIN NOTHING BUT MORE CONTROL.

Objectives of the Bill

In light of continuing risks associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, including recent recurrences of community transmission, the Bill proposes to:

- further extend the operation of a range of legislative measures implemented to facilitate the health response to COVID-19 and to minimise economic and other impacts
- implement additional, minor improvements to those provisions, to:
 - clarify that guarantine directions may be served electronically
 - establish a new prepayment system for quarantine fees, including allowing for the prescription
 of cohorts for whom fees must be paid in advance or for whom fees may be waived, and
 supporting more flexible payment and collection arrangements (including refund provisions).

The extension provisions follow previous temporary extensions effected by a series of Acts of Parliament in late 2020 and 2021, under which the majority of measures are due to expire on 30 September 2021. The Bill would extend this legislative expiry date to 30 April 2022, or an earlier date to be prescribed by regulation. The temporary measures which are to be further extended include:

- increased powers for emergency officers and the Chief Health Officer to impose restrictions on the movement and interactions of persons, facilitate contact tracing, and enforce quarantine requirements
- amendments relating to attendance requirements for meetings of various groups and agencies and for the conduct of proceedings of courts/tribunals and other bodies (including provisions to facilitate remote attendance, voting, and authorisations using audio or audio-visual links)
- modified notification requirements (allowing electronic notification) for certain proposals for community consultation or for the issuing of notices to individuals
- · various amendments relating to planning requirements and environmental approvals
- amendments relating to access to relief measures for tenants and commercial lease holders
- amendments relating to bodies corporate and the manufactured homes sector (including providing for the deferral of fee contributions and limitations on increases to site rent)
- various measures to facilitate the holding of state by-elections and local government by-elections and fresh elections in a COVID-safe manner
- provisions enabling variations to liquor licensing to support temporary takeaway sales by operators of licensed venues disrupted by COVID-19
- public health related provisions governing the care of persons with a cognitive or intellectual disability, the delivery of mental health services, the operation of prisons and youth detention centres, and related measures.

Kind regards,

Robyn Booth | Managing Director