From:
To: Economics and Governance Committee

Subject: A citizen"s opposition to the recently tabled bill to extend emergency powers to 30 April 2022

Date: Wednesday, 7 July 2021 11:30:01 AM

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To whom this concerns:

As a signatory to the Barrington Declaration, I write to express my grave concern about, and opposition to, my State government's proposal to extend emergency powers to 30 April 2022 under the guise of keeping Queenslanders safe. In my view, this is more about expanding government oversight and control rather than extending appropriate measures to safeguard Queenslanders from current concerns about a coronavirus.

Some measures already mandated for Queenslanders by the current State Government almost certainly breach federal laws protecting individual privacy and other freedoms, as set out in section 94H of the Privacy Act 1988 and sections 60 and 61 of the Bio-Security Act 2015.

Queenslanders have been fairly generous-minded about State-imposed sanctions to curb the spread of the latest corona virus to cause widespread concern, but seeking to extend emergency powers for a health concern that hardly rates as an emergency (if handled judiciously) shines a light on this government's aspirations to exercise unwarranted control over its citizens and residents.

Yours sincerely, David Neville (Associate Professor)



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