

Queensland Branch

5 July 2021

Committee Secretary
Economics and Governance Committee
Parliament House
George Street
Brisbane QLD 4000

By email to: egc@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Committee Secretary

***Re: Public Health and Other Legislation (Further Extension of Expiring Provisions)
Amendment Bill 2021***

The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists (RANZCP) Queensland Branch welcomes the opportunity to respond to the *Public Health and Other Legislation (Further Extension of Expiring Provisions) Amendment Bill 2020 (the Bill)*.

The RANZCP Queensland Branch endorses the proposal to extend the date for the declared public health emergency (due to the COVID-19 outbreak) until 30 April 2022.

In light of recent recurrences of community transmission and the continuing risks posed by the evolving COVID-19 pandemic, the RANZCP Queensland Branch supports the proposals 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 quarantine 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).

[Redacted signature area]

Yours sincerely



Professor Brett Emmerson AM
Chair, RANZCP Queensland Branch Committee