

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Economics and Governance Committee](#)
Subject: Submission on the proposed bill to extend public health emergency powers to 30 April 2022
Date: Thursday, 1 July 2021 7:16:29 PM

Economics and Governance Committee
Queensland Parliament
[REDACTED]

To the Committee

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

It has come to my attention that on 16 June 2021, the Minister for Health Yvette D'ath (the "Minister") tabled the latest Public Health and Other Legislation (Further Extension of Expiring Provisions) Amendment Bill 2021 (the "Bill") for an extension of the emergency powers through to [30 April 2022](#). In this speech she said that the Bill would be referred to the Health and Environment Committee for review. The Bill was not sent to the Health and Environment Committee as per her representations but has instead made it to the Economics and Governance Committee list.

I would have thought that an extension of emergency Public Health powers would quite appropriately be referred to the Health and Environment Committee for review and would like an explanation as to why this now sits in your committee.

The Minister alluded to this Bill being consistent with Human Rights legislation. Neither I nor my family – nor any Queenslanders that I have spoken to – share the Minister's view and believe that she is not acting in good faith. There has been no release of any data regarding what I would describe as a well-coordinated scaremongering campaign regarding the "Covid-19 pandemic" to justify such a lengthy extension of these emergency powers.

Over the last 16 months of this "Covid-a9 Pandemic", it has become increasingly apparent to me, my family, my work colleagues and my friends, that our rights are continuously being eroded by this government who seem hell-bent on demonstrating absolute power without any oversight, accountability, fairness, or actual data. Businesses are closing, people are losing their jobs, and any possibility to plan ahead is erased in an instant – the most recent lockdown occurring with 1 community case in Queensland. This is hard to accept when only days prior a packed Suncorp Stadium hosted Origin II.

I would argue that many alternatives to this course of action exist (e.g., living with Covid-19, perhaps with restrictions at aged care and hospital facilities to protect the most at risk; removing legislation to enable GPs (who actually have medical qualifications) to do their job and consider whether prescription of HCQ would benefit their patient; to sponsor TGA review of off-label medicines such as Ivermectin, to name a few options)

Another issue (a side issue to the Bill being considered) is the mass surveillance of Queenslanders via the QR codes – now mandated for all businesses by CHO directives (but no current legislation). There have been instances already where this information that was to be used only for Health tracking purposes, has been sought and given to police – in Queensland and also in others states (for their relevant equivalent tracing methods). When this public health emergency ends (and I believe this has already occurred) this mass surveillance protocol needs to be abolished, we are not the CCP, we are Australians.

For your consideration.

Regards

Darren Buckley
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