

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Economics and Governance Committee](#)
Subject: Submission against the Public Submission against Health and Other Legislation Amendment Bill
Date: Friday, 2 July 2021 9:20:40 AM

Dear committee,

I am writing to express my opposition to the Public Health and Other Legislation Further Extension of Expiring Provisions) Amendment Bill 2021. I oppose this bill for the following reasons:

1. It places too much power with an unelected public servant (the CHO), who is not part of a broader Covid response panel of individuals who have extensively researched the best ways to respond to the current pandemic. Additionally, this public servant does not have enough accountability for their actions, which have caused great devastation to people's lives and the Queensland economy.
2. The safeguards in this bill are too broad. As long the CHO thinks something is reasonably necessary to curb the spread of Covid, they can do what they want. But the CHO could use this to justify many overreaches of power. Additionally, relying solely on the CHO's reasoning is not the same thing as relying on sound scientific evidence.
3. The contact tracing allowed through this bill does not correspond to the current need. Outbreaks are not yet at the extent where we would need to track each individual everywhere they go, even if they buy a banana.
4. Additionally, this bill would make criminals of even the most innocuous of citizens under particular provisions – the CHO may think a measure is reasonably necessary, but a citizen may not be aware of a rapidly changed direction and may not be able to comply. More protection is needed for the average citizen, and more say in how much power the CHO has.
5. Queenslanders are responsible adults who can be trusted to make decisions regarding their own health. Removing so much power from the people and placing it in the hands of the CHO will create a nanny state in which people are no longer capable of taking care of themselves. This bill could be extended indefinitely in such a society. It is a crisis entirely of Queensland Health's making, and they could easily exploit it and abuse others through their power.

Thank you for considering my submission. My name is Tamara Feldhahn
My email address is [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sincerely

Tamara Feldhahn