

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Economics and Governance Committee](#)
Cc: [Everton Electorate Office](#)
Subject: Proposed New Queensland Bill : The Public Health and Other Legislation (Further Extension of Expiring Provisions) Amendment Bill 2021
Date: Friday, 2 July 2021 12:26:15 PM
Importance: High

I am writing to you in absolute abject horror at the proposed amendments to the Queensland Bill, tabled during Budget Week, by Minister for Health, Yvette D'Ath. The proposed Bill seeks to extend the Public Health Emergency Response measures from 30 September 2021 to 30 April 2022

The Public Health and Other Legislation (Further Extension of Expiring Provisions) Amendment Bill 2021 extends a range of emergency measures, including the extraordinary powers of the Chief Health Officer, Dr Jeannette Young – such powers include the ability to impose restrictions on the free movement of citizens including their ability to

- a. travel,
- b. conduct a business,
- c. attend school,
- d. church or
- e. sport

as well as the power to issue mandates on

- f. mask wearing,
- g. social distancing rules,
- h. the numbers of persons who can gather at any one time,
- i. border closures,
- j. area lockdowns and
- k. quarantine mandates.

The Bill also extends emergency measures, AND CREATES NEW ONES, for the care of mental health patients and persons with cognitive or intellectual disability including the operation of prisons and youth detention centres and all related measures.

As far as I have been able to tell, no mention of the Bill, as tabled, has received any media coverage or attention, nor has it been raised or addressed by the State's legal bodies – which is equal parts alarming and surprising.

By 30 April 2022, Queenslanders will have been living under ‘state of emergency’ conditions for more than two years – with every likelihood that this date will continue to be extended on a rolling basis.

At the very least this process is something deserving and warranting of intentional public discussion – at a local and State level!
From the time Queenslanders were first told we needed a ‘short, sharp lockdown’ to ‘flatten the curve’, the Government has released no ‘exit strategy’ or ‘roadmap’ for a way out of the current ‘emergency’ conditions – an ‘emergency’ which many agree, is starting to look ominously permanent.

The Bill was referred to the Health Committee by the Minister in the Speech, however it appears the Bill did not go to the Health Committee, but appears instead on the list for the Economics and Governance Committee.

The State and Local Governments are elected by the people, for the people (well, at least .. that is what most of the people believe ... although it certainly seems to look like selection v election)

When are you going to act in a manner of transparency and raise awareness of this Bill with the people of Queensland?!

I reject, resent and refuse – at every conceivable level – this proposed Bill being accepted or implemented!

Fiona Edmunds

