Economics and Governance Committee
Extension of Emergency Powers till April 2022
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To Parliament House Queensland

I do not support the extension of the Emergency Powers till April 2022 and here are my reasons:

1. To date, the Government of Queensland has introduced lockdowns that have adversely affected the mental health and economic health of Queenslanders mostly in the populated areas where tourism and related industries are key. The loss of income to the Gold Coast alone is never going to be replaced no matter what the Premier says about the Olympic Games which are a long way off - we will not recoup the economic loss to the people now. If you don't agree prove it and let all Queenslanders see exact figures of what the lockdowns have done. Now, Parliament will no doubt discount what I am saying and I appreciate and respect your views but mental health issues are on the rise. Why are we not seeing the mental effects of the Government's measures now? Yes, a virus like Covid-19 is awful, but do you honestly 100% believe you will eradicate it?

2. Human rights are slowly being eroded. What happens to families and their rights when the ability of parents to earn a living is totally destroyed? Now, the Government no doubt will dispute this, but have a look at what is happening on SM where distraught mothers, fathers and desperate for help to feed their families, families living in cars, women living in cars. Seriously, go for a deep dive...take a fortnight out of being in Parliament House and go live like some people are now living because of the lockdown measures. Spend time with people who are stuck at home because they have lost their jobs - be in their shoes and see what it is really like. It is a disgrace for a developed nation - state to allow these things to be happening. The Government of Queensland will no doubt say, that the financial issues are a federal government issue - is it really? Is it 100% a Federal Government issue when the Queensland Government will make their own choice regardless.

3. What other ways can you handle the virus without destroying more lives? Our lives are not a competition and we need to be exploring other ways to help humanity. We were told at first that the vaccine would save us but now we know that it will not stop someone from getting the virus!

4. If you extend Emergency Powers to April 2022, then what? What if that does not work? 10 months of pain and suffering - for what purpose? What will be achieved? What if that plan is down the wrong rabbit hole? Sweden is phasing out AZ and yet here in Queensland, the Government keeps pushing it and blaming the Federal Government? How many vaccines have already been thrown out in Queensland?

Coming from a European family, we have seen the plight of human actions and what is happening now is akin to how people lived difficult lives in the past because of decisions that were counter productive for people.

I do not support or agree with the Government's planned bill. Queenslanders should be able to vote on this and not leave it to the Government to make a life decision for us.

G Palmer