From:
To: Economics and Governance Committee

Subject: The peoples voice

Date: Saturday, 3 July 2021 3:03:23 PM

Just emailing my submission. If successful, this bill will extend 'state of emergency' powers until 30 April 2022- 2 full years since first introduced. Personally, I'm over my life being mandated by a health officer. I'm over seeing the negative effect of lockdowns on small businesses, and the general fear in the community that such mandates invoke. I'm not going to get into any arguments around all this- just exercising my democratic right while I still have it by writing against this bill to this committee.

On 16 June 2021, right in the middle of 'Budget Week', the Minister for Health, Yvette D'Ath, tabled a new Bill extending 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.

These powers include the ability to impose restrictions on the free movement of citizens, their ability to travel, conduct a business, attend school, church or sport, as well as the power to issue mandates on mask wearing, social distancing rules, the numbers of persons who can gather at any one time, border closures, area lockdowns and 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, the operation of prisons and youth detention centres and related measures.

As far as I have been able to tell, no mention of the Bill, its contents or tabling last Wednesday has received a single mention in the media or state legal bodies. This is surprising. By 30 April 2022, Queenslanders will have been living under 'state of emergency' conditions for more than two years, with every chance the date will be extended yet again, judging on past experience.

This is something that warrants public discussion, if not debate.

Regards
Roma Flood- Leembruggen