
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 2 July 2021 8:38 AM
To: Economics and Governance Committee
Subject: Public Health and Other Legislation (Further Extension of Expiring Provisions)
Amendment Bill 2021

To: Committee Secretary
Economics and Governance Committee
Parliament House
George Street
Brisbane QLD 4000

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

Dear Committee Secretary,

I would like to submit my concerns regarding the proposed Public Health and Other Legislation (Further Extension of Expiring Provisions) Amendment Bill 2021.

As far as I have seen this last week, there has been no mention of the Bill, its contents or tabling in the media or state legal bodies.

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, I would have thought, on the following issues:

- From the time Queenslanders were first told we needed a 'short, sharp lockdown' to 'flatten the curve', in 2020, the Government -State and Federal - 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.
- This bill should be widely publicised before it's tabled or debated in Parliament, not "snuck through quietly" without the full knowledge of the Queensland people that our Government is about to sign away our rights and freedoms under emergency powers for another year!
- If passed, the Public Health and Other Legislation (Further Extension of Expiring Provisions) Amendment Bill 2021, will take Queensland's rolling state of emergency into its third year. This is a disgrace given that right now this illness is no threat to 99% of the healthy population, there are viable treatments for this illness which actually work (even though our government has made prescribing them illegal), there are currently 2 Australians taking up ICU beds in any of the Nation's hospitals, and the experimental vaccines on offer do not appear to be completely safe or efficacious.
- Under the State's Covid-19 Emergency legislation framework, these emergency powers bestow enormous legislative and executive decision-making powers in the hands of a few, with no oversight, public debate or parliamentary scrutiny. This has got to come to an end! Your decisions are destroying the economy of our State, and have in fact already decimated much of the Tourism industry in the North of Queensland, where we live.

- Without any clearly defined exit strategy, there is also a real danger that the Government's use of these emergency powers and measures, will become normalised over time and eventually, permanent.
- Under the 'rule of law' model this country was founded on, any exercise of the Executive's regulation-making powers must be proportionate and reasonable, and strictly 'time limited'.
- Maintaining an infection eradication strategy in Queensland – something that was never mentioned or discussed in the beginning - risks a future of economic impoverishment, endless snap lockdowns, disruptive travel restrictions, panic buying, rationing and routine draconian punishments for citizens exercising their democratic rights and freedoms.
- Queenslanders are now effectively being ruled by Executive Decree, with absolute power vested in an unaccountable Executive, unelected bureaucrats, and with none of the usual 'checks and balances' essential to a functioning democracy.

I am absolutely opposed to this Bill, and will be requesting that every Parliamentarian I can email will oppose it, and instead prepare new legislation that better safeguards our system of government and the people's rights and freedoms.

Sincerely,

Mrs Rae Lloyd-Jones

