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

Annette Kusters

I would like to make a submission regarding the above bill.

I would like to make it known that I do not support this bill and would call on the committee to oppose the bill for the following reasons:

- Queenslanders have already been living under 'State of Emergency' for far too long, where initially it was supposed to be a 'short, sharp lockdown' to 'flatten the curve.'
- The curve is well and truly flat. Case numbers are extremely low and these are just case numbers and not numbers that even show how many are hospitalised or even sick with this illness.
- Public discussion, with access to all data used by the government to make these decision, is essential.
- Powers such as those in the bill should only be for exceptional situations and Queensland is not in that situation at all.
- Continuing on with these drastic measures will only cause further harm to the small businesses of Queensland, our economy and to the minds and lives of actual people.

Further, the use of QR sign in mandates (which is part of these State of Emergency powers) should be stopped. This is an over-reach of government powers that is open to misuse (as has been seen in Western Australia when the police used this information to track a criminal).

Again, I strongly urge you to oppose this bill and move towards government that is transparent, democratic and accountable.