From:
To: Economics and Governance Committee

Subject: SUBMISSION OPPOSING Public Health and Other Legislation (Further Extension of Expiring Provisions)

Amendment Bill 2021

Date: Wednesday, 7 July 2021 11:32:23 AM

Importance: High

Dear Committee,

This submission opposes the extension of Queensland Public Health emergency measures past 30 September 2021.

Or if extended at all, this submission advocates extending emergency health measures only to

4th December 2021.

Before 04 December 2021, if not prior to 30 September 2021 ...

- Vaccines will have been rolled out in far greater numbers;
- Every vulnerable group will have already had months and months of opportunity to become fully vaccinated;
- I myself am categorised in 1b, and obtained my first vaccination on 22 March 2021, and my second jab on 31 May 2021 through my local GP, who has continued to have ample supplies for all qualifying persons continually since those dates;
- After 30 September 2021, any further emergency measures will be unnecessary and an imposition on citizens, as well as an infringement of their individual liberties and human rights;
 - o After this date, individuals should undertake their own risk assessments and should resume decision-making for themselves and their own families and Queensland government should withdraw from directing the entire population with regulations and directives, making this legislation redundant, unnecessary and an imposition;
 - Lock downs should no longer be mandatory. Any person who feels vulnerable or who wishes or who has not been fully vaccinated is free to self-isolate, but enforced isolation should no longer be continued;
 - Freedom of movement is a fundamental human right which should never be infringed except in the most dire emergency situation. After the expiry of the current measures on 30 September, we assert that such a draconian provisions are unnecessary and no longer justifiable;
 - Costs associated with lockdowns include:-
 - Individuals their wages;
 - Individuals opportunity to live their lives;
 - Risk the insolvency or at least severe loss of earnings for many small businesses;
 - Impede economic activity and wellbeing for all;
 - Deprive citizens of access to goods and services they need or desire;
 - The CHO and Premier of Queensland have shown authoritarian tendencies imposing lockdowns on an arbitrary basis and far more than has been justifiable. The sooner these powers are removed from the persons named the better for liberal democracy and for individual autonomy and freedom;
 - Lock downs are completely unnecessary once a reasonable proportion of the population has had the opportunity to be vaccinated;

- Those who want to lock themselves down will be completely free to do so on an individual basis, for those who assess the risks for themselves and decide to do so;
- Any facility for mandatory lockdowns should be replaced with health and risk assessments by the CHO being publicised and for individuals to make their own decisions according to their own risk profile and their own personal circumstances;
- o QR codes for visiting premises should no longer be active. These QR requirements are
 - An imposition on everyone;
 - Decidedly difficult for those who do not possess a smart phone or do not have a smart phone charged and operating on their person at the time required;
 - An imposition on all small business, businesses generally and on anyone operating premises which the public may visit, and can be a significant additional cost particularly for small or micro businesses;
 - Constitute a risk to privacy and civil liberties. Various state agencies have already abused the system and broken the promises of public leaders who promised that QR Codes would ONLY be used for Covid tracking. This promise has been broken and State Agencies manifestly cannot be trusted;
- o Mask wearing is a major inconvenience for all, and more than that for many with emotional problems or trauma;
 - It is an imposition to insist on masks;
 - It is an additional cost on everyone to have to purchase disposable masks to wear on each occasion when out in public;
 - It is a health issue to wear masks and for persons to re-breath their own exhalations;
- If the Committee so decides that 30 September is too early a date, then the extension should only be until 04 December 2021;
 - o This date will ensure school holidays are free for family travel, and families can make forward plans knowing there will be no unpleasant surprises from government edict;
 - o Citizens will be able to plan and to have Christmas unimpeded by bureaucratic imposition;
 - Families and friends get together over Christmas holiday period;
 - Mental and emotional health of the State will receive a tremendous boost with complete freedom of movement restored for this important part of the year over summer;
 - Tourist destinations, churches, festive events and everyone in the state will benefit from restored complete freedom of movement by this date;
 - o By December, every Australian will have had the opportunity of receiving at least one vaccination, if not two or more;
 - o Any excuse for not returning the State to its old and traditional "normal" will be past.

Please consider this personal submission.

Thanks,

Richard Davies

Submission No 492

Richard Davies