

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Economics and Governance Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Public Health and Other Legislation (Further Extension of Expiring Provisions) Amendment Bill 2021  
**Date:** Wednesday, 7 July 2021 3:40:58 PM

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Good day to all Honorable members of the Committee,

I am writing this submission to the committee to address the concerns I have in the amendment bill introduced to the house on 16/06 by the Hon Yvette D'Ath MP to extend State of Emergency Powers through to 30 April 2022.

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

The State of Queensland has been operating under emergency measures to assist with management of the COVID-19 pandemic. The actions of the government should be commended in having a very good track record in this regard with respect to handling of cases of COVID-19 overall, and also the severe cases. To date this year understand there has only been 1 death attributed to COVID-19, being an overseas citizen brought into Australia to assist with treatment. It is worth noting that there have been no recorded deaths this year relating to community spread of COVID-19.

The measures of the government when operating under state of emergency powers is only supposed to be temporary. The current legislation is in effect until 30 September 2021 where the vaccination roll-out will be well under way. The government should take note that any undue extension should not be warranted as the main goal will be to ensure that the emergency has subsided - if we are not seeing a rise in severe cases and the quarantine and hospital systems are very much able to accommodate, then why would there be a need for extension through to April 2022. The government should be operating under the legislation that has already been set in place and not seeking to increase these temporary powers for any more than it is deemed necessary.,

One major concern that myself and many fellow QLD citizens share is that with these emergency powers the Queensland State Government has opted to resort to heavy lock-down tactics. We have seen the Greater Brisbane and Gold Coast areas completely locked down with schools and businesses closed immediately, and people forced to remain in their homes due to not even a handful of COVID-19 "cases". The borders are consequently slammed shut leaving many residents and holiday-makers in limbo, and again massive impacts on small business. It always seems that larger businesses are able to continue yet small business is ruled with a heavy hand. As the emergency powers are such that they can apply to the whole state, someone in Cape York has to follow a mask mandate for a case that was diagnosed (via PCR test) almost 2,500km away. Does this type of power seem to be in proportion to the risk at hand and require strengthening and providing for a longer duration?

Committee - Queensland needs to look outside of it's own borders (which are only meant for a map, not to be a tool of separation amongst it's own people) and also the country as a whole and seek guidance from not only the World Health Organization but other world powers and allies in their handling of the COVID crisis. There are calls to assess the actual sickness of people and measure the severity rather than just count the number of cases. Counting the number of cases and broadcasting this to the QLD public via media and press conferences and advising a provisionally applied and untested vaccine is the way out of this crisis is very short-minded. People have been dealing with coronaviruses for years and we cannot live in a constant state of emergency to cope with this. The public needs to be

engaged and trusted to take on their own health measures with thanks to the government for guiding us through this crisis, but also there comes a time for the holding of hands to stop.

There are many measures the everyday people of Queensland can take to alleviate their concerns with COVID-19 and I would encourage, nay urge the Queensland Government to work with it's people on building their individual immunity, and ensure same as any flu season past that people are as healthy as they can be. The public would appreciate a government that looks after their health and provides them with ample supply of vitamins, fresh food and organic products, medical care and treatment as needed but not the only measure. Again i must re-iterate that this is very short-minded and goes against health recommendations for the WHO in vaccinating the whole population. There should also be open debate on the use of non vaccination remedies, such as prescribing Ivermectin / Hydroxychloroquine as either a prophylactic or onset of symptoms treatment. We have seen such government policy turn around outbreak issues in other countries however without much study we have chosen to ban them for this purpose, and put legislation in place that could result in criminal conviction and jail time for doctors.

Thanks for your time in accepting my submission and I do hope that the above measures I have discussed are considered with regards to extending the emergency powers requested of the State of Queensland. The emergency will continue until we as a state and nation find another way to deal with COVID-19 in our every day lives.

Kind regards,  
David Latham

