

Wednesday 7th July 2021

Attention:

Committee Secretary

Economics and Governance Committee

Parliament House

George Street

BRISBANE QLD 4000

My name is Gail Tumes and I am writing to express my concern around the further extension of the powers granted to the government under the Public Health and Other Legislation (Further Extension of Expiring Provisions) Amendment Bill 2021, not to be approved.

I would like to voice my apprehensions around the lack of scientific evidence and some personal experiences which has left me having no, too little, faith in our current Government.

Merely extending these provisions so that interventions based on poor quality science can be continued, is highly upsetting to myself and the many people with whom I associate.

Lockdowns:

Isolation promotes poor mental health, evokes anxiety, and promotes 'neediness' in our population. <https://psycnet.apa.org/fulltext/2020-43457-001.pdf>

Targeted approaches focused on supporting those who are high risk of infection should be considered.

<https://www.bmj.com/content/371/bmj.m4263?fbclid=IwAR2ZvRw07fJjUOU3fTHqNOyUvmiyAxSQzQuSo-RQveURj5Cty3cJzA41yLU>

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/jpm.12644>

Face Marks:

There is insufficient evidence to support mask use in healthy people. Masks are associated with a range of potential harms (during exercise, increasing risk due to incorrect wearing/seal). Why are you using a 'Hamster study' to support the use of masks? Look at the Danish Mask Study, which found face masks provide no beneficial effect against protecting people from infection.

<https://aricjournal.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s13756-015-0086-z>

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4480558/>

<https://www.ciap.health.nsw.gov.au/assets/docs/covid-19/evidence-checks/20200720-Evidence-check-face-masks.pdf>

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7306735/>

<https://www.acpjournals.org/doi/full/10.7326/M20-6817>

Infectious strains:

Fearmongering continues with the claim of more infectious strains existing, yet the study does not provide clear clinical evidence nor peer reviewed, computer estimations were the outcomes suggestions. This is clear manipulation of those who are already living in fear!

https://www.medrxiv.org/content/10.1101/2020.12.24.20248822v1.full?fbclid=IwAR2rFJ7nK3LwXfvVGFPvaeYvuNwwxKI_AXleoJgVsqrHgVOxyGMnsHE6D8o

Privacy Act 1988, Sect 94H:

Informs us that no one can ask me to provided medical information in relation to being vaccinated or not. Yet our current government and local media, and public representatives, continue to bombard us with coercive suggestions and bullying into the only way to get out of lockdown is to inject our bodies with an unresearched toxic needle.

Additionally, no one can track movements and cannot refuse us entry to a business open to the public; yet the QR sign-ins are doing exactly that. This 'requirement' is forcing retail staff to take on a 'policing' role of which they are not required to do. This is both cruel and irresponsible behaviour from our current government officials enforcing what is illegal behaviour.

<https://qrco.de/privacyact>

Australian Biosecurity Act Sect 60 & Sect 61:

No person other than a human biosecurity officer under the authority of a biosecurity control order, can force you to submit to biosecurity measures, such as, forced vaccinations, coerced, or forced RT PCR tests or Quarantine (including social distancing, mask wearing).

The extremely strict conditions in which a biosecurity control order may be issued includes, the grounds under which it can be issued and by whom; the listed human disease; the symptoms (you **must** be symptomatic); the history of the contact with the infected people; and more.

<https://qrco.de/Sect60Biosec>

<https://qrco.de/Sec61Biosec>

Personal:

My sole-trader therapy business has been severely impacted since March 2020. I have been unable to maintain consistent business momentum and growth due to the inconsistent message and categorisation of the therapy industry by both the State and National governments. 2019/20 was shaping up to be a bumper year for financial growth for me. That was until the first of several lockdowns was enforced.

To make matters worse not one of the dozens of Directives has been consistent in their message stipulating whether we are a restricted business or not. One minute, if we are AHPRA registered we would be allowed to work. The next we are massage parlours. Yet Remedial Massage therapists, who are not AHPRA registered and hold no higher qualification than I or many other therapists hold, have been consistently placed under the AHPRA umbrella. Even worse was the categorisation of our industry as massage parlours clearly showing the lack of insight and education of those who are trying to enforce this extension. Many therapists provide a safe, pain management therapy keeping their clients out of hospitals and their local GP's, thus taking a massive burden off the health system.

Additionally, JobKeeper stopped and I have now had to review whether my business is viable as a small sole-trader home clinic. If I am forced to close my door then this amounts to nothing short of disrespect for the small business owners and is abuse by the government given the tens of thousands of dollars I have pumped into my education to not have to access welfare payments. This latest lockdown has seen me lose \$640 over 4 days as Brisbane was extended a further 24 hours.

Placing therapists in this stressful position where we have to consistently play catch-up with our clients will lead to many physical burnouts of therapists.

During the many lockdowns my son's rehabilitation therapies have also been so severely impacted he has not progressed as far as what he potentially could have. This has led to him having to relinquish independent living due to safety and mental health dangers and return to the family home for support. This has added additional health, financial and mental health strain to his father and I.

Politicians, aided by media hysteria, seize the opportunity to dispense funds, create new programs, and enact proposals without considering the effects this has on their constituents.

These changes to 'protecting' us are supposed to be temporary, but by changing laws they become binding, thus allowing the Government to expand in size and control.

This should never be about control or minority law making.

I ask that the extension for the afore-mentioned future provisions not be granted and that any prospective or future public health interventions be based upon the current scientific evidence..

Kind regards,

Gail Tumes (Therapist)

