PUBLIC HEALTH AND OTHER LEGISLATION (FURTHER EXTENSION OF EXPIRING PROVISIONS) AMENDMENT BILL 2021

FORM AA SUBMISSION

LIST OF SUBMITTERS

- Daniel Torbey
- Damian Grasso
- Lee Stanley
- Monica Moore
- Rebecca Stanley

From:

Economics and Governance Committee

Subject: Economics and Govenance Committee - Queensland Bill to Extend Emergency Powers

Date: Wednesday, 30 June 2021 9:53:43 PM

Attention Committee Secretary

RE: Queensland Bill to extend emergency powers to 30 April 2022

On 16 June 2021, the Minister for Health, Yvette D'Ath tabled a new Bill extending the public health emergency response measures from 30 September 2021 to 30 April 2022.

The Public Health and Other Legislation (Further Extension of Expiring Provisions) Amendment Bill 2021 extends a range of emergency measures including the extraordinary powers of the Chief Health Office, Dr Jeannette Young. These powers include restrictions on movement, conducting business, attending church or sport as well as mandates for mask wearing, social distancing, gathering restrictions and lockdowns, among others.

These powers were brought in early in 2020 in order to enact "short, sharp lockdowns" to "flatten the curve". But now these "emergency" powers are looking ominously permanent.

Currently, the threshold for instituting restrictions in Queensland stands at almost zero COVID-19 cases, and that has been the case for more than six months. The almost unlimited powers held by the Queensland Government is no longer warranted and in fact are damaging to the state. The Committee must reject this Bill wholesale and reject any future requests by the Queensland Government to seek similar expansive powers related to COVID-19.

I hereby formally register my objection to this proposed extension of emergency powers Bill and wish to send a message to Queensland Government to keep its hands off of my freedoms.

Regards,

