

**Health and Environment Committee**

---

**From:** Sandra Lippiatt [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 13 January 2021 12:18 PM  
**To:** Health and Environment Committee  
**Subject:** Public Health and Other Legislation (Extension of Expiring Provisions) Amendment Bill 2020 - Response from Sandra Lippiatt - I do not support extending this Bill

**Categories:** Submission

I disagree with the extension of this Bill for the following reasons. I base these reasons on fact and occurrences that have happened in Queensland:

1. I am concerned at the lack of risk management applied to border closures from one person - the Chief Health Officer (CHO) whose only expertise, I understand, is in the health sector. Decisions to close borders should be made on the health advice provided by the CHO, but the risk assessment regarding issues such as mental health issues, family disruption, chaos in travel, the economy, job losses and the effects on livelihoods, the inability to plan anything within and outside the state, with certainty, and ultimate decision to close borders, should be made by elected leaders, or better still, at a federal level under federal guidelines. For example, the Minister for Tourism, should play a big part in assessing the risk of loss of jobs and the effect on the Queensland economy.
2. The risk management issue also has no regard for compassion and there are many examples of people who have not been able to attend funerals, even if they weren't from a hot spot e.g. the Canberra case. I find the lack of compassion shown by the CHO and other health officers and no flexibility in the rules to be unhelpful in the current situation and embarrassing. The damage has been done.
3. The recognition of hot spots by the CHO took too long and had a risk management approach been taken sooner, the Queensland economy would not have been so badly affected. Again, it seems the CHO is extremely limited in her ability to manage a crisis which is more than just about a pandemic now, given the ongoing disruption to business.
4. The latest 3 day lock-down where individuals and family members were required to wear masks in cars, shows a distinct lack of common sense shown by the CHO and I have no faith in the ability of the CHO in the practical aspects of managing COVID.

Thank you for considering my objection to this Bill being extended.

Yours sincerely

Sandra Lippiatt

Phone: [REDACTED]



Virus-free. [www.avg.com](http://www.avg.com)