

From: Beverley McArthur <Beverley.McArthur@parliament.vic.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 25 August 2020 2:44 PM
To: 'bob_mann@thecommunityforum.com.au'
Subject: Extension of State of Emergency
Attachments: Hon. Edward O'Donohue MLC - Premier Andrews - Re Proposed Extension of State of Emergency.pdf; Parochial Premiers on Power Trips.pdf; How Far Down_ Beverley McArthur MP.pdf



BEVERLEY McARTHUR MP
Western Victoria Region

Via email: bob_mann@thecommunityforum.com.au

25 August 2020

Dear Bob,

Re: Extension of State of Emergency

Thank you for writing to me and expressing your opposition to Daniel Andrews' proposal to extend the State of Emergency for a further twelve month period.

I concur with your concerns about this plan to redraft legislation and provide the Victorian Government with unprecedented wide-ranging powers. I have had more than 700 emails on this matter in the past 24 hours, and so can state with certainty that our outrage is widely shared. I have tried to address most aspects of your email here, but given the volume of correspondence I have received, and the need to update you quickly, I hope you appreciate that I have had to summarise my position.

The Opposition vigorously opposes the radical proposal and I, alongside my colleagues will vote against **any** Bills that seek to implement it in the Parliament.

The Labor Government's insistence on expanding its powers should be of deep concern to anybody who cares about democracy and the rights of individuals.

Both the State of Emergency and State of Disaster have led to significant destruction of businesses, forced an estimated 250,000 to 400,000 Victorians to become unemployed and has led to draconian lockdown measures to which we have all now reluctantly become accustomed.

The current restrictions constitute a serious erosion of individual rights and are destroying lives and hundreds of thousands of livelihoods.

In Parliament, I have asked the Premier to clarify the specific objective of the lockdowns with respect to case numbers and the rationale behind it, including supporting data around the cost to the state and lives lost to suicide.

I'll continue to oppose expansions of Government powers and restrictions on public or parliamentary scrutiny. I have attached a Letter to the Editor I issued yesterday, detailing my criticism of over-mighty state Premiers who are using local politics to trample individuals' rights, damaging our country's unity as well as its economic and social fabric.

I hope you might find it of interest. If you would like to be added to my mailing list to receive further updates about my opposition to the Labor Government's draconian lockdowns and ongoing mismanagement of the state, please reply to this email.

Please also fill out this survey to express your opposition to this proposal:

www.surveymonkey.com/r/63H7FDY

Given the Liberal Nationals' unequivocal opposition to this proposal, it is important that cross bench MPs also oppose it, as without their support the Coalition opposition will not succeed and the Government will achieve the numbers required on the floor of the Chamber. I would therefore strongly encourage you to contact members of the Legislative Council crossbench to ensure that any Bill of this nature is defeated, namely:

- andy.meddick@parliament.vic.gov.au
- samantha.ratnam@parliament.vic.gov.au
- Fiona.patten@parliament.vic.gov.au
- Catherine.cumming@parliament.vic.gov.au
- jeff.bourman@parliament.vic.gov.au
- rod.barton@parliament.vic.gov.au
- Tania.Maxwell@parliament.vic.gov.au
- Stuart.Grimley@parliament.vic.gov.au
- Clifford.Hayes@parliament.vic.gov.au
- David.Limbrick@parliament.vic.gov.au
- Tim.Quilty@parliament.vic.gov.au

I have attached the Shadow Attorney General, The Hon. Edward O'Donohue's letter to the Premier regarding this issue, as well as my latest contribution to the Parliament about the current lockdown.

Kind regards,



Beverley McArthur MP

Member for Western Victoria Region





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