1. In 2020, amendments were made to the *Public Health Act 2005* and other legislation to support the Queensland Government’s response to COVID-19, the Queensland economy and businesses affected by the pandemic. Given the urgency of the amendments, sunset and expiry clauses were inserted into the amending legislation. These amendments were extended by the *Public Health and Other Legislation (Further Extension of Expiring Provisions) Amendment Bill 2021* and are due to expire 30 April 2022.
2. The public health emergency for COVID-19 continues to require a significant response from the health system and support from across the Queensland Government. To ensure the Queensland Government can continue to effectively respond to the health and safety risks of COVID-19, it is necessary to extend the expiry dates of the amendments directly relevant to the public health response until 31 October 2022 or earlier if the Minister for Health and Ambulance Services ends the declared public health emergency.
3. The Public Health and Other Legislation (Extension of Expiring Provisions) Amendment Bill 2022:
* extends the operation of the public health COVID-19 measures until 31 October 2022;
* extends other COVID-19 measures directly related to the public health response until 31 October 2022 including measures to respond to the risks of COVID-19 in corrective services facilities under the *Corrective Services Act 2006*; disaster arrangements under the *Disaster Management Act 2003*; and measures to allow patients subject to the *Mental Health Act 2016* to be granted leave to comply with public health directions;
* continues provisions to support the operation of the Queensland Small Business Commissioner until a permanent Commissioner is appointed and provisions to support the operation of the *Retail Shop Leases and Other Commercial Leases (COVID-19 Emergency Response) Regulation 2020*;
* provides transitional regulations can be made to facilitate the transition of expiring other COVID-19 measures;
* provides for the remaining other COVID-19 measures to expire on 30 April 2022; and
* provides that if the Minister for Health and Ambulance Services ends the declared public health emergency under section 324 of Public Health Act before 31 October 2022, the measures being extended by this Bill will expire, except for transitional arrangements.
1. Cabinet approved the introduction of the Public Health and Other Legislation (Extension of Expiring Provisions) Amendment Bill 2022 into the Legislative Assembly.
2. *Attachments*:
* [Public Health and Other Legislation (Extension of Expiring Provisions) Amendment Bill 2022](Attachments/Bill.PDF)
* [Explanatory Notes](Attachments/ExNotes.PDF)
* [Human Rights Statement of Compatibility](Attachments/SoC.PDF)