

**Form letter Example B (12):**

Dear Committee Secretary,

I was delighted to hear that on 19 October 2023, the Senate asked you to consider the appropriate terms of reference for a COVID-19 Royal Commission. Please accept my submission to this inquiry:

If ever an issue was deserving of a Royal Commission it is this. The severity of the pandemic measures – which caused immense financial cost, a devastating toll on mental health, loss of many jobs and the overthrow of basic freedoms – needs to be publicly scrutinised and questioned because, “Those who fail to learn from the mistakes of history are doomed to repeat them.”

Moreover, we need a Royal Commission to have the power to bring to light the ‘expert health advice’ which Australian governments claimed they relied upon to justify the pandemic measures. There is no reason why this advice should not be revealed to and scrutinised by the public.

I believe the inquiry should also solicit evidence from all Australian stakeholders, including individuals, organisations, businesses and churches. The terms of reference should encompass both the federal government as well as state and territory government actions (unlike the Commonwealth Government COVID-19 Response Inquiry, announced by Prime Minister Albanese on September 21, 2023, which focuses on measures undertaken by the Commonwealth Government and excludes those undertaken by the states and territories).

The terms of reference should also explicitly consider the ethics and effects of the vaccine mandates imposed by state and territory governments, as well as discrimination against those who remained unvaccinated.

Please do all you can to facilitate this much-needed Royal Commission.

Yours sincerely,

Paula Vidilini