

Louise Swanson

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Committee Secretary
Joint Standing Committee on Treaties
PO Box 6021
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

To All the Members of JSCOT

I oppose Australia adopting the amendments to the International Health Regulations (IHRs).
And to Australia signing the pending WHO Pandemic Treaty.

My reasons include:

- i These treaties will give the WHO undue influence over the government of Australia and its people.
- ii The WHO is not an impartial body, and therefore unable to make unbiased decisions.
- iii These treaties will enable the WHO to declare pandemics, as and when it so chooses, even when there is objective substantiated evidence that proves otherwise. In turn, emergency laws that grant extraordinary power to health bureaucrats at the expense of normal democratic processes will be enacted.
- iv Emergency powers will invoke Australian politicians and public agencies to restrict Australians' freedoms, which can include:
 - lockdowns;
 - travel restrictions;
 - incarceration
 - scientific debate censored;
 - enforced medical treatments, and
 - whatever measures the WHO deems appropriate.
- v During Covid-19 the WHO's directives were grossly flawed and tainted by ii above.

- vi An economic and humanitarian crisis was created in Australia because of the Implementation of the WHO's approach to pandemic management in the Covid-19 epidemic
- vii The WHO is indemnified from liability for harm, further disqualifying it from making informed and impartial decisions about health.
- viii Health Minister Butler's endorsement of the WHO's 2024 International Health Regulations (IHRs) and his committing Australia to a 'binding' Pandemic Agreement is completely inappropriate.
- ix Under international law, Australian politicians and agencies should be given four months to consider the finished wording of the IHRs and their implications.
- x Annually, the implementation of these treaties will cost Australians billions of dollars.
- xi If Australia commits to these treaties, ongoing application and lengthy withdrawal periods makes them very difficult to get out of.
- xii 14 well-informed members of parliament have already objected to the treaties.
- xiii And lastly, the document you are considering is illegitimate. The WHO's own rules state that for such an agreement to come into force, there must be a VOTE of member states attending the treaty discussions. At the May 2024 meeting of the WHO, there was no vote. However, after a closed meeting session on the final day, WHO officials stated that agreement had been reached by consensus. There is no provision under the WHO's constitution and rules that allow an agreement to be reached by consensus. It is an illegitimate document.

Please take into account all of the above. These treaties threaten the Australian way of life and our sovereignty.

Yours sincerely
Louise Swanson