



**Senator Malcolm Roberts**  
One Nation Senator for Queensland

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## MEDIA RELEASE

### **Senator Roberts concerned about Australia's reliance on Professor Ferguson's exaggerated COVID-19 modelling**

Senator Roberts has expressed deep concern that our national and state management of COVID-19 maybe responding to the exaggerated modelling predictions of Professor Ferguson.

Senator Roberts said, "Professor Ferguson's assumptions that form the basis of his modelling have produced sensationally inaccurate predictions and this is not the first time Ferguson's predictions have been wildly overstated."

Professor Ferguson's track record includes, but is not limited to, predicting 50,000 deaths from mad cow disease, reality was 177 deaths; 65,000 would die of swine flu, reality was 457 deaths and 200 million people may die from bird flu, reality was 282.

The Department of Health website cites the use of the Peter Doherty Institute Report, which references reliance on assumptions from the Imperial College COVID19 NPI Modelling Report, of which Professor Neil Ferguson is the first author.

"It is irrefutable that Professor Ferguson's modelling predictions are exaggerated and his work has had far-reaching devastating impacts on national economies."

Foot and mouth disease, which cost the British government £10 billion, was an extraordinary overreaction to an exaggerated claim made by Professor Ferguson.

The Australian Government has enacted a record \$320 billion package, the economy is dismantling, the employment rate is rising and the nation's mental health issues are starting to show themselves.

Senator Roberts has written to the Prime Minister and Queensland's Premier asking whether these significant health and economic responses, which will affect future generations, are based on the Doherty Institute Report and by default, the assumptions in Ferguson's Imperial College Report.

"No business, economy nor community can hibernate and then just return to normal. There will be devastating consequences from these decisions for some time to come," Senator Roberts said.

"The people of Queensland and Australia deserve to have confidence that the Government's serious and far-reaching decisions during this health crisis are based on credible and robust data and modelling," Senator Roberts added.