1. The Health and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2021 (Bill) improves the operation of health legislation and advance the health of Queenslanders. The Bill includes amendments to the:
* *Ambulance Service Act 1991* to ensure the framework for the management of confidential information is clear and aligned with the *Hospital and Health Boards Act 2011* and remove the disqualification criteria that requires the Queensland Ambulance Service Commissioner to be no older than 65 years of age;
* *Hospital and Health Boards Act 2011* to enable allied health professionals to access The Viewer to assist in the provision of patient care;
* *Mental Health Act 2016* to: clarify how the Mental Health Court can proceed if there is a dispute of facts on which an expert has based their opinion; improve the electroconvulsive therapy (ECT) approval process by providing additional protections and by promoting the dignity of vulnerable patients by taking their wishes and preferences into account; ensure that the provisions about apprehension and transfer of absent patients are effective and align with least restrictive practice; improve support for victims of crime; allow the MHRT to approve requests for international transfers of forensic patients; clarify the requirements for the interstate transfer of forensic and treatment support order patients; extend the duty of confidentiality to experts engaged to provide reports to the Court or Tribunal; strengthen the confidentiality provisions to ensure the obligations for all people performing functions under the Mental Health Act are clear and consistent; and make other minor amendments to improve the operation of the Act;
* *Public Health (Infection Control for Personal Appearance Services) Act 2003* to improve the operation of the Act in relation to the restoration and renewal of licences;
* *Radiation Safety Act 1999* to remove the requirement to prescribe identity verification documents by regulation;
* *Termination of Pregnancy Act 2018* and the *Criminal Code Act 1899* to allow students registered under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law who are undertaking a clinical placement with a health service to assist in a termination of pregnancy;
* *Transplantation and Anatomy Act 1979* to exclude human milk from the definition of tissue for that Act, to ensure sick and pre-term infants can be efficiently provided donated human milk to prevent or treat serious health conditions;
* *Corrective Services Act 2006* and the *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008* to make consequential amendments to refer to the *Medicines and Poisons Act 2019.*
1. Cabinet approved the introduction of the Health and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2021 into the Legislative Assembly.
2. *Attachments*:
* [Health and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2021](Attachments/Bill.PDF)
* [Explanatory Notes](Attachments/ExNotes.PDF)
* [Human Rights Statement of Compatibility](Attachments/SoC.PDF)