1. Queenslanders come from over 220 countries speaking over 220 languages. A multicultural society provides opportunities for a diversified workforce and business ventures, access to tourism and export markets.
2. Migrants and refugees make a significant contribution to the Queensland economy and community. The fiscal contribution of migrants to Australia is $1.6 billion in the first year after arrival and $15.4 billion over the first 10 years (Population Flows 2010–11, Department of Immigration and Border Protection).
3. Despite the benefits that migration brings to Queensland, newly arrived migrants are often disadvantaged in participating in the economy.
4. The Multicultural Recognition Bill 2015:
	* introduces a Multicultural Queensland Charter that outlines multicultural principles to promote harmony and inclusion
	* establishes a Multicultural Queensland Advisory Council, to provide advice on the issues and barriers facing Queenslanders from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds and how these can be addressed, including the economic participation of migrants and refugees.
	* provides for the Queensland Government to have a multicultural policy and action plan that embeds the principles of the Charter in the work of government, sets outcomes for government action, and provides a coordinated whole-of-government approach to developing policies and providing services to people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.
5. Cabinet approved the Multicultural Recognition Bill 2015 for introduction into the Legislative Assembly.
6. *Attachments*
* [Multicultural Recognition Bill 2015](Attachments/Bill.pdf)
* [Explanatory Notes](Attachments/ExNotes.pdf)