1. The Government committed to review the *Liquor Act 1992* (the Liquor Act) as part of the *Queensland Alcohol Action Plan 2003/2004 to 2006/2007* and the *17-Point Brisbane City Safety Action Plan.*
2. In April 2006, a discussion paper was released to inform the Liquor Act review. Subsequently, the *Liquor Reform in Queensland* information paper outlining the outcomes of the review was released to the public on 2 December 2007. The reform proposal identified a three strategy approach underpinned by the objective of harm minimisation and aimed at red tape reduction: legislative reform; licence type and fee restructure; and social marketing campaign aimed at improving cultural attitudes towards alcohol consumption and alcohol supply in Queensland.
3. As part of the strategy for legislative reform a Regulatory Impact Statement and Draft Public Benefit Test (RIS/DPBT) for seven legislative amendments was prepared to address national competition policy and statutory obligations. The RIS/DPBT was released for public consultation in February 2008.
4. The Bill includes:
* harm minimisation to become the first object of the Liquor Act;
* an expanded definition of “liquor” to include products with a novelty value that target young people or encourage irresponsible or rapid consumption of alcohol, such as alcohol vapour or alcoholic milk products;
* new powers to ban undesirable alcohol products, such as those that inappropriately target young people, increase intoxication at rapid rates or encourage irresponsible use of alcohol. This power is in line with other jurisdictions and responds to a community expectation that products which heighten the exposure to increased harm for the community can be banned;
* standard trading hours to be from 10am to midnight with extended hours to 5am;
* new powers to order emergency closure in the face of riot or tumult, for up to 48 hours, or licence suspension where riotous behaviour is or is likely to occur;
* creation of an irresponsible “secondary” supply provision to make it an offence for an adult to supply alcohol to a minor in private places. The issue of irresponsible supply, whereby parents and other adults provide liquor to underage teenagers, has attracted significant attention in the community, particularly in the context of youth parties and schoolies celebrations, and will be addressed through this provision; and
* the introduction of annual liquor licence fees, based on the risk a licensed premises poses. Each licensee will pay a designated base fee and loadings based on other risk factors such as trading hours and compliance history.
1. Cabinet approved that the Liquor and Other Acts Amendment Bill 2008 be introduced into the Legislative Assembly.
2. *Attachments*
* [Liquor and Other Acts Amendment Bill 2008](attachments/Liquor%20and%20Other%20Acts%20Amendment%20Bill.pdf)
* [Explanatory notes](attachments/Liquor%20and%20Other%20Acts%20Amendment%20Bill%20EXPNOTES.pdf)