1. The Department of Community Safety commissioned a review of disaster management arrangements in Queensland by independent consultants. The consultants recommended that the *Disaster Management Act 2003* be amended to improve the operation of disaster management in Queensland.
2. The Disaster Management and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2010 contains a number of amendments to the *Disaster Management Act 2003*. The Bill:
* Provides a more precise description of the relationships between the local, district and state levels and the phases of the disaster management arrangements;
* Allows the Department of Community Safety and local governments to enter into agreements about their respective roles and responsibilities in relation to State Emergency Service units;
* Allocates the responsibility for developing, maintaining, and continually improving the State’s disaster management framework (including the State Disaster Management Plan and disaster management guidelines) and effectiveness to Emergency Management Queensland (EMQ);
* Allows a district disaster coordinator, or the Minister and Premier, to declare a disaster verbally with the declaration to be recorded in writing as soon as practicable;
* Changes the criteria for disaster situation declarations to allow for proactive disaster declaration;
* Allows the appointment of an officer, generally a police officer, to act as State Disaster Coordinator to provide better coordination of the State’s response to a disaster event;
* Allows the appointment of an officer to act as the State Recovery Coordinator to provide better coordination of activities in the recovery phase; and
* Provides for the establishment of temporary disaster districts to allow a disaster that occurs over two or more districts to be managed by one district group.
1. Cabinet approved the introduction of the Disaster Management and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2010*.*
2. *Attachments*
* [Disaster Management and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2010](Attachments/Att1Disaster%20Management%20OLAB10.pdf)
* [Explanatory Notes](Attachments/Att2Disaster%20Managements%20OLAB10%20Explanatory%20Notes.pdf)