1. The Electoral Reform and Accountability Bill 2011 proposes reforms to Queensland’s electoral system to increase the transparency of relationships between political parties, candidates and donors.
2. The Bill builds on the integrity and accountability reforms introduced by the State Government. The Government committed in 2009 to introduce a cap on political donations if the Commonwealth Government did not act to reform political donations by July 2010.
3. The White Paper entitled “Reforming Queensland’s Electoral System” was released by the Premier and Minister for the Arts for public consultation in December 2010.
4. The principal proposal from the White Paper contained in the Bill provides for:

* caps on donations for use in state electoral campaigns;
* capping of campaign expenditure during a state election campaign;
* enabling an increase in public funding to political parties and candidates;
* requiring political parties, candidates and third parties to keep dedicated state electoral campaign accounts for all state electoral campaign income and expenditure;
* lowering of the age for provisional enrolment from 17 to 16 years of age; and
* enabling enrolment and updating of enrolment details up to the day before polling day.

1. Cabinet approved the introduction of the Electoral Reform and Accountability Bill 2011 into the Legislative Assembly.
2. *Attachments*
   * [Electoral Reform and Accountability Bill 2011](Attachments/Bill.pdf)
   * [Explanatory notes](Attachments/ExNotes.pdf)